

Patten, Lamont attack Heseltine plans

# Thatcher camp expecting first round victory

By ROBIN OAKLEY AND PHILIP WEBSTER

MARGARET Thatcher's campaign team ended the first day of the Tory leadership contest confident that she had the votes to win on the first ballot next Tuesday.

Cabinet ministers rallied behind her. The environment secretary, Chris Patten, criticised Michael Heseltine's plans for reforming the poll tax; Norman Lamont, chief secretary to the Treasury, strongly endorsed her approach to Europe.

But the Heseltine camp was taking heart from opinion polls indicating that Labour's lead would be cut sharply if he were to become Conservative leader.

Mrs Thatcher, cool and outwardly confident, said at her last Commons question time before the poll: "After three general election victories, leading the only party with clear policies resolutely carried out, I intend to continue." She smiled when Labour left-winger Dennis Skinner shouted over complaints of noise in the Commons: "All this will change under Heseltine", and said that she would be back next Wednesday with

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replied the government had already carried out a review, but the effects would not be seen until next year. This time had been agreed at a cabinet meeting earlier when the implications of Mr Heseltine's suggestions were discussed.

Some swift footwork was required yesterday from Mr Patten and the education secretary, Kenneth Clarke, who had commented on Wednesday that poll tax difficulties had still to be sorted out in a further review. That appeared to go against government policy because the environment department review resulted in July in a £1 billion package to cushion the impact.

Interviewed on BBC Radio 4's *The World at One*, Mr Patten said that the review was over but added: "We are always prepared to look at any new proposals that anyone might have for further improving the system of local government finance."

A concerted effort will be made by the Thatcher camp to suggest that while Mr Heseltine is a charismatic politician good on the broad sweep of ideas, he does not have Mrs Thatcher's capacity for detail. They are brushing aside the poll evidence that a Heseltine leadership would have a dramatic effect on Britain's entry to the European exchange-rate mechanism last year only because Nigel Lawson and Sir Geoffrey had threatened to quit.

The leadership race, for which nominations closed at noon with Mrs Thatcher and Mr Heseltine the only candidates, dominated prime minister's questions. Mrs Thatcher gave the chance to criticise Mr Heseltine's pledge of a poll tax review, with education spending possibly taken over by central government.

Mr Taylor said that local education authorities in Britain had spent £1.86 billion last year. "If the share carried by the poll tax was transferred to national taxation, this would mean an increase in income tax of 20 per cent, or more than 5p in the pound." The prime minister replied: "If all education costs were transferred to central government and the grant still left with local government, it would mean a huge increase in income tax or a substantial reduction in monies available for other services such as health, pensions, defence and law and order. Either you get a big increase in income tax or substantial reductions in public expenditure."

Asked by the Labour MP Alistair Darling if she thought the poll tax was capable of overthrowing the prime minister

Mrs Heseltine's decision made on Tuesday night



Mrs Thatcher at her desk in Downing Street yesterday. "I intend to continue"

## Challenger's wife shuns ambition

ANNE Heseltine says in an interview with *The Times* today that she is "not political" and tends to feel "like a spare thumb when I just trail along as the wife".

She says her husband "definitely" made the decision to run against Margaret Thatcher for the leadership only on Tuesday night, after Sir Geoffrey Howe's resignation speech, which Mrs Heseltine

heard in her car. "Goodness, I nearly drove off the road. Geoffrey is usually such a politico man."

Mrs Heseltine says the family is relieved to have the candidacy out in the open. "Now, even if there's a bit of mud flying over the next week or so, I daresay the adrenalin will float us all through it."

"As far as Michael's career is concerned", she says: "I want him to succeed, but I don't want it for myself, not at all. Some Westminster wives do, terribly, and get angry and frustrated when their husbands fail or resign, I don't."

"When he came home after resigning from the cabinet over Westland I was sad for him, because he minded a lot, but not for the rest of us."

A colleague who works on an appeal run by Mrs Heseltine says that working with her is like handling an extremely good, well-bred horse: "You suggest something to her as a possibility, and suddenly she's jumped at it."

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The new section includes the passage: "Everyone also has the right to know and act upon his rights, to participate in free and fair elections; to own property alone or in association and to exercise individual enterprise".

Deal ready, page 10

## New human rights charter

By ANDREW MC EWEN, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE declaration to be signed by 34 nations at a summit on Wednesday in Paris to mark the end of the Cold War will include a charter of human rights proposed by Margaret Thatcher.

If Mrs Thatcher is still prime minister her signature will appear on the document along with those of Presidents Bush and Gorbachev and the leaders of Canada and every European nation except Albania.

What will happen if she loses the leadership vote on Tuesday is unclear, but she

will already have addressed basic principles which go beyond previous declarations. The Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe will lay the basis for a new East-West relationship, including improved standards on human rights.

In a speech at Aspen in August Mrs Thatcher proposed that it should include a "Magna Carta" of rights has been taken up. The title has not been settled but is likely to include the word "charter".

Under the heading: "Human rights, democracy and the rule of law" it sets out

Full report, page 25

## Girl's ordeal

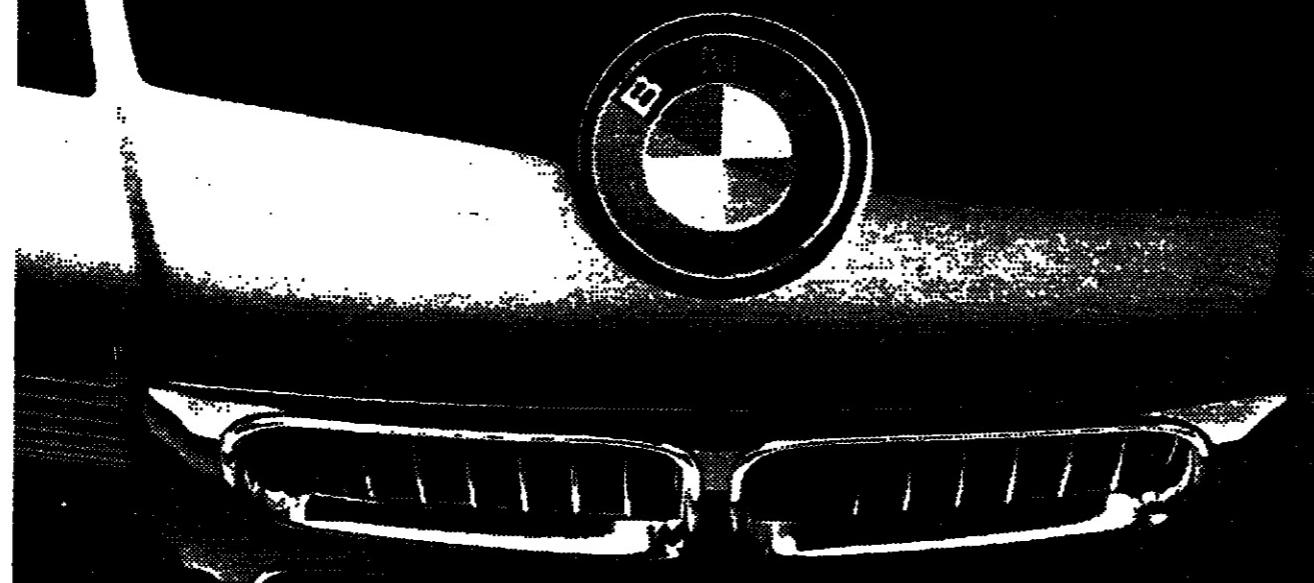
A schoolgirl described to court yesterday how she fell into "a deep sleep" and a frightening dream as a man with a moustache strangled her on Devil's Dyke on the South Downs, where he left her for dead after a sexual assault.

Asked by the Labour MP Alistair Darling if she thought the poll tax was capable of overthrowing the prime minister

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# New-style cockney MP champions Thatcher

By RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

DAVID Amess, the youthful MP for Basildon, epitomises the changes wrought in the make-up of the Conservative party under Mrs Thatcher's leadership. The cockney grammar school boy, whose parents were an electrician and a tea lady, entered Parliament in the 1983 Tory landslide when he won the Essex constituency that had been assumed to be a safe Labour seat.

He credits his victory to Margaret Thatcher's populist policies, particularly her encouragement of home ownership and the taming of the trade unions, and her robust nationalism. In spite of the government's present difficulties and his slim 2,649 majority, Mr Amess will not support Michael Heseltine, who claims to have a better chance than Mrs Thatcher of leading the Tories to a fourth general election victory.

Mr Amess, aged 38, said that he would vote for Mrs Thatcher because of her strong leadership of the country and because of her stance on the European Community. "She stands up for Britain in Europe and the world and I share her doubts about developments in Europe."

"She is experienced and at a time when there could be a conflict in the Gulf, we need a strong leader. There has never been much love lost between Mrs Thatcher and the general public, but though she is someone who brings out very strong emotions there has always been great respect for her. Voters know where they stand with her and at this time it is not in the interests of Britain to change leaders."

In the opposing camp is Spencer Batiste, the MP for Elmet, a constituency on the eastern outskirts of Leeds. His most recent task for the party was to act as a "minder" for the Tory candidate in the Bradford North by-election. It was a dispiriting time for him and during two weeks' canvassing he discovered the

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Mrs Heseltine, page 29



Centre of attention: Mr Heseltine confronted by the press as he set off yesterday from his home in Belgravia, London, for Scotland

## Paisley by-election trail runs across stony ground

By KERRY GILL

THERE were no cheering supporters, flags or bunting to greet Michael Heseltine's arrival in Paisley last night as he started his leadership campaign with a speech at the town hall. The main street, shrouded in gloom and Scotch mist, was festooned with Scottish Nationalist posters.

If Mr Heseltine believes he can attract voters whom Mrs Thatcher can no longer reach, few of them were roaming the streets of Paisley yesterday.

Apart from the two Tory candidates and their aides, it was difficult to identify anyone likely to vote Conservative in the forthcoming by-elections, never mind anyone the least interested in who would end up as party leader.

Paisley is not natural territory for Mr Heseltine. The Tory candidates, Ewan Marwick in Paisley North and John Workman in Paisley South, might have been expected to welcome his visit to boost their fortunes in the by-elections, brought about by the deaths of the sitting MPs. Instead, at their joint morning press conference, both expressed a distinct lack of enthusiasm for his challenge to Mrs Thatcher.

Not even the prospect of Mr Heseltine's promise to revise the poll tax was welcomed by the candidates sitting with Allan Stewart, MP for Eastwood, and Bill Walker, MP for Tayside North. Asked if it was fair to say that the team was unconvinced by Mr Heseltine's stated policy changes, Mr Stewart agreed.

"Michael Heseltine is not launching his campaign for the leadership here. He is coming to support the candidates. His campaign has already been launched in any event. His visit was arranged a long time ago. There is no question of any embarrassment to us," he said.

Mr Workman said: "The poll tax is about paying for the services people use locally. The people who use the

General election, 1987  
Paisley North: Adams (Lab) 20,193; McCutcheon (SDP/All) 5,751; Laing (C) 5,741; Taylor (SNP) 4,696.  
Lab majority: 14,442.  
Paisley South: Buchanan (Lab) 21,611; Carmichael (L/All) 5,826; Williamson (C) 5,644; Mitchell (SNP) 5,398.  
Lab majority: 15,785.

services should pay for them. Until Mr Heseltine puts forward an alternative I am happy to stand on the doorsteps and convince people the poll tax is right." Mr Marwick agreed that there was no need for changes.

A two-hour search of the constituencies failed to find any Tory posters in windows. The party staff advised *The Times* to drive to the Ralston district to find evidence of support. Enid Park, out walking her dog, said: "You can't believe a word any of them [politicians] say. I used to vote Tory but I will probably vote for the Liberal Democrats, anything to keep Labour out."

Would Mr Heseltine be more popular than Mrs Thatcher? "It is immaterial. There is not much difference. They have to blame somebody else. Mrs Thatcher is a woman so she is fair game," Mrs Park said. John Gauldie, a retired plant engineer, said: "I would not vote for the present government anyway. It is against my whole way of life. The poll tax has been torpedoing the Tories for a long time." He was unconvinced that Mr Heseltine would make much difference.

Mr Gauldie said that when he bought his house 33 years ago his annual rates bill was £27. He now paid £1,100 in poll tax for himself and his two daughters. "Services are no more than I had quarter of a century ago," he added.

Anne Conroy admitted she voted for the nationalists in the last general election. "The people who use the

I don't believe a woman prime minister is a good thing," she said. Mrs Conroy said an overhaul of the poll tax by Mr Heseltine might make it fairer but it was clear, the nationalists could count on her vote on November 29.

Later, the national officers of the Scottish Young Conservatives issued a statement attacking Mr Heseltine's decision to stand against the prime minister. It read: "It is sad to witness a senior backbench MP putting personal ambition and egotism before any loyalty to the party or to the government, and his willingness to damage the party in the process."

It is these people, the Howes, the Heaths, the Heseltines, a pathetic collection of deadbeats who are a constant source of embarrassment to the party, our very own enemy within, against whom we must always be vigilant."

Today Mr Heseltine will travel to Lanark to address local Tories. Things, he must know, can only get better.

Sir Peter said: "Michael is the man to heal the wounds because the essential plank of his programme is that he does not intend to have a 'him and them' approach to government. He will have every section of the party represented in government at every level."

The Heseltine camp yesterday reported good progress in its campaign. Mr Heseltine himself said: "I am very flattered by the support I have received. There are a large number of people who have expressed their support for me and I understand it is growing every moment."

While Michael Mates, Mr Heseltine's campaign manager, remains at the nerve centre in the former defence secretary's Westminster office, a dedicated group of close followers has been working in the Commons.

They include Keith Hannington, who has long been one of his chief lieutenants, and William Powell, Malcolm Thornton, Peter Temple-Morris, and Quentin Davies, who are each targeting supporters from different regions.

## Ministers' backing 'go to challenger'

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

SIR Neil Macfarlane, the former sports minister and a member of Margaret Thatcher's leadership campaign team in 1975, yesterday formally proposed Michael Heseltine for next Tuesday's contest.

He was seconded by Sir Peter Tapsell, MP for Lindsey East.

With the government, particularly the cabinet, duty-bound to support Mrs Thatcher in public, Mr Heseltine is unable to call on ministers to help his campaign.

Even so, Mr Heseltine's backers claim that a number of ministers are certain to back him in the vote, and have told him so.

The Thatcher camp yesterday claimed that the Heseltine campaign lacked heavyweight support. However, the former cabinet ministers David Howell and Sir Ian Gilmour have already indicated backing for him, and there are signs that other former ministers may declare support for him over the weekend.

Sir Peter said: "Michael is the man to heal the wounds because the essential plank of his programme is that he does not intend to have a 'him and them' approach to government. He will have every section of the party represented in government at every level."

"You then privatise all the London services so that you have local industrialists running local advisory services, and there is a comprehensive funding in the private sector to make it all possible."

Once this was achieved, he said, the residual problem of unemployment could be dealt with.

Mr Heseltine said that one of his first priorities if he became prime minister would be to denationalise the Bank of England and turn it into a British equivalent of the German Bundesbank. He emphasised that he regarded the politically controlled role of the Bank of England as a serious obstacle to economic and investment strategy.

"We seem to have done wonderful things with privatisation. But I just wish we'd start at the beginning and take the independence of the Bank of England as the first priority in changing it with the responsibility for the protection of the value of the currency," he added.

Lee: "Mrs Thatcher is not right for the 1990s"

Dunn: "Thatcher has proved her worth"

## Why I am voting for Heseltine

ROBERT Dunn, aged 44,

JOHN Lee, aged 48, is a member of an endangered species: Conservative MPs representing marginal northern seats (Nicholas Wood writes).

A committed right-winger, he held his junior post for five years before being dismissed in 1988. This places him among the potentially disgruntled group of 78 Tory MPs who no longer enjoy the fruits of office or the front bench. Nevertheless, Mr Dunn, who has built up a 14,929 majority in once marginal Dartford in Kent, is backing the prime minister.

"I will vote for Margaret Thatcher because we have had 11 years of strong leadership. That's what people admire about Margaret Thatcher. They admire the strength of leadership she has given on every front and they know that when she takes on a challenge or a battle, she will see it through to the end."

"A change of leadership will play into the hands of the Labour party, who are laughing at us. We are getting up to. Activists in my constituency are bewildered and upset that we are shooting each other in the foot."

"I would not support Michael Heseltine because Margaret Thatcher has proved her worth. She has a strong philosophy, she has worked hard for this country and she has given us an image abroad that makes us second to none."

"The sad thing about this wretched event is that it has become a debate about style. There is an awful lot of agreement between those of us who support the prime minister, and Michael and many of those who support him."

Mr Dunn added that he hoped that the Conservatives would unite after the leadership was settled. Only a united party could fulfil its chief purpose of denying Labour power and delivering policies distilled from the lively battle of ideas within Tory ranks.

## Differing diaries for dramatic days

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

MARGARET Thatcher has left herself little time over the next five days to ponder her fate in the leadership challenge, whereas, from tonight, Michael Heseltine has virtually cleared his diary.

Uppermost in the mind of the prime minister, her aides insist, is her preparation for next week's Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe in Paris.

By comparison, Mr Heseltine today finishes his two-day visit in Scotland with a constituency dinner at Strathkelvin and Bearsden, near Glasgow. The marginal seat is held by the Labour MP Sam Galbraith.

The former defence secretary will return tonight to his country home near Banbury, Oxfordshire, for a quiet weekend.

On Sunday evening he will emerge for a carefully staged photo-opportunity before the world's media. No interviews will be given. He is expected to return to London, and his diary for Monday and Tuesday has been left clear.

Mr Thatcher will leave Downing Street tonight for

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## Company money may fund training schemes

By TIM JONES  
EMPLOYMENT CORRESPONDENT

IF MICHAEL Heseltine becomes prime minister next week he will seek to introduce controversial legislation compelling companies to contribute funds to finance training and enterprise schemes.

As part of his proposal, designed to bridge what he perceives to be a damaging and growing gap in skills and expertise between Britain and its leading competitors, companies would be forced to "pay their way".

The Department of Trade and Industry would be stripped of its central role as adviser on export standards and the responsibility passed on to locally run private sector agencies.

His proposals, he told businessmen at Henley management college, would make it impossible for those who did not want to pay their way to opt out. It would then be possible to privatise the training schemes to make them more effective and sensitive to particular needs.

"What you do is reduce corporation tax by 1 per cent and before they actually get their hands on the money you put a 1 per cent levy on profits which goes to the local agency responsible for delivering these services," Mr Heseltine said.

"You then privatise all the London services so that you have local industrialists running local advisory services, and there is a comprehensive funding in the private sector to make it all possible."

Once this was achieved, he said, the residual problem of unemployment could be dealt with.

Mr Heseltine said that one of his first priorities if he became prime minister would be to denationalise the Bank of England and turn it into a British equivalent of the German Bundesbank. He emphasised that he regarded the politically controlled role of the Bank of England as a serious obstacle to economic and investment strategy.

"We seem to have done wonderful things with privatisation. But I just wish we'd start at the beginning and take the independence of the Bank of England as the first priority in changing it with the responsibility for the protection of the value of the currency," he added.

**ROYAL MINT**

# RSPCA dead pony advert ruled to be too offensive

By MICHAEL HORNBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

**T**HE Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was yesterday accused by the Advertising Standards Authority of causing unjustified shock and distress in a publicity campaign to mobilise public support for an end to the long-distance transport of live animals for slaughter.

One of the photographs used in the campaign, showing a dead pony hanging from a meat hook, was a shocking and graphic portrayal, the authority, which supervises the British code of advertising practice, said. The authority called for the immediate withdrawal of the advertisement.

Gavin Grant, campaigns director of the RSPCA, called the authority's ruling high-handed and said it would be a staggering blow to the society's campaign. "It is ironic that glossy pictures of dead animals for trivial purposes, like whisky advertisements surrounded by dead grouse, are acceptable. Yet they throw up their hands in horror at the RSPCA's attempt to alert people to the tragic fate that could await British horses," he said.

The dead pony photograph was one of three advertisements featuring slaughtered



Detail from the RSPCA's offending advertisement

animals. It has appeared in double-page spreads in *The Times*, *The Independent*, *The Daily Telegraph*, *The Scotsman* and *The Glasgow Herald*.

The society last night said plans to repeat the advertisement in *The Guardian*, *The Aberdeen Press and Journal* and three party political publications would be dropped. Matti Alderson, director

general of the authority, said: "The RSPCA understandably wants to draw attention to its causes but this advertisement exceeds the bounds of what is acceptable. Publishers should have regard to the sensitivities of their readers before publishing advertisements which provoke revulsion."

The authority said the picture was distressing and irrelevant, because the issue addressed by the advertisement was the transportation of live animals not their method of slaughter. The RSPCA would be asked for substantiation that the photograph was an accurate reflection of the way in which horses were conveyed after slaughter.

Caroline Crawford, the authority's press officer, said the code required that the content of advertisements should not cause grave or widespread offence or excite distress merely in pursuit of an attempt to attract attention or shock. "This particular advertisement was a clear breach of the code," she said.

Launching the campaign last Tuesday, Mr Grant admitted that the pony in the picture had been slaughtered perfectly legally and humanely but said its use was legitimate as a "potent symbol" of the society's concern that the export of live horses to the Continent for slaughter might have to be resumed when the single market takes effect after 1992.

Freshly butchered horsemeat is popular in France and Belgium. Britain has effectively banned the live horse trade for food purposes since 1950 by allowing only animals above a specified value and age to be exported. The European Commission regards this as a restraint on trade that cannot continue after 1992.

"The Advertising Standards Authority clearly do not regard the threat that British horses could in future undergo the suffering and torture of long-distance transport to the Continent for slaughter as a serious matter," Mr Grant said. "They are totally out of touch with the concerns of the British public and media."

Last year the authority asked the society to substantiate or delete a claim in an advertisement, featuring a pile of dead dogs, that the number of animals being killed had increased because of the abolition of the dog licence. The claim was later omitted from the advertisement.

## Radical reforms sought in equal pay laws

By FRANCES GIBB  
LEGAL AFFAIRS  
CORRESPONDENT

**R**ADICAL proposals to reform the equal pay laws so that a pay award won by an individual would automatically be given to all employees at the workplace are called for by the Equal Opportunities Commission today.

The commission, which condemns the present equal pay laws as a "paradise for lawyers, hell for women", says that in spite of the existence of the equal pay laws for the past seven years, there is a substantial gap between the wages and salaries of men and women in Britain. This shows no signs of narrowing.

The commission calls for a statutory requirement that when an employee brings a successful equal pay claim at a tribunal, all employees in the same workplace doing the same or similar work should be entitled to the same award, including back pay.

In spite of the growth of individual contracts and merit pay, employers in general make arrangements for pay and other benefits collectively. Such sex discriminatory agreements can be tackled only through individual cases. However, the commission says, changes in law are needed to make the remedy more effective and to eliminate sex discrimination of both individuals and groups of workers.

The commission also calls for a new kind of "class action" so that collective pay agreements at a workplace could be challenged in industrial tribunals by any interested party, including the commission itself. The tribunal would then be able to order that sex discriminatory terms in collective agreements and pay structures be changed or removed.

That kind of formal mechanism to challenge pay structures is needed if serious progress is to be made towards eliminating pay discrimination, it says. At present, few cases are brought because of the length of time and cost involved. The average time for a claim to go through the full equal value procedure is 17 months. Cases can cost several thousand pounds to bring as they are often the subject of sustained challenge by employers, the commission says. Legal aid is not available so trade unions or the commission pay for most claims.

# Watchdog calls for new laws to fight rising charity fraud

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

**F**RUD and abuse will continue to damage Britain's £13 billion-a-year charity industry until the government brings in new laws to strengthen the powers of the Charity Commission, the National Audit Office says today.

The public spending watchdog found that most charities still fail to put in accounts to the commission or to report changes to their registration, making it more difficult to detect abuses. Although the commission was computerising its records and was stepping up staff training, legislation was needed urgently to tighten controls.

The report backs up earlier recommendations from the Commons public accounts committee and the senior civil servant Sir Philip Woodfield for better regulation to stop fraud, abuse and maladministration in the charity industry, which is expanding rapidly. The government published a white paper last year promising charity law reform

properly until the Charity Commission's register is on computer, the law is strengthened and staff are trained to detect fraud. "Until then it will continue to be of concern that the majority of charities are failing to notify the commission of changes to details on the register and to submit accounts."

The commission said the register should be 80 to 90 per cent accurate by 1993-4. The government has rejected the Woodfield report recommendation that charities failing to put in accounts should be struck off the register.

The commission started to call in accounts of all active registered charities last month using the new computerised system. The audit office reported: "In 1989 only 15,200 accounts were submitted, though another 3,300 were received as a result of prompting by the commission. The total of 18,500 represented about 11 per cent of registered charities."

ADRIAN BROOK



On the receiving end: a worker for the Imperial Cancer Research Fund collecting money in London yesterday

## Pleas for more money leave public unmoved

A new survey shows that people are far less willing than in the past to dig deep for charities, reports Jamie Detimer

up into the accounts of 18, one of which involved the possible misappropriation of more than £1 million.

Several well-known groups have had widely publicised difficulties. Earlier this year War on Want disclosed that it had debts of £2 million and Oxford has been engrossed in a public dispute about engaging in political activity. In the summer the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association was criticised for allegedly spending only half of its annual income and using excess money to increase its investments in shares and the money markets.

Tax-breaks and give-as-you-earn payroll schemes introduced last spring by John Major, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, have not brought the bonanza to charities that many predicted. The report's findings seem to confirm fears that the recent series of scandals and incidents of financial mismanagement involving charities may have knocked public confidence.

Several charities, including War on Want and the Charity Commission, have come under scrutiny and been found wanting. The commission was fiercely criticised in 1988 and last year by the Commons public accounts committee, the National Audit Office and a Home Office scrutiny group.

Last year 26 per cent of households in Britain failed to make any charitable contribution, an increase of 2 per cent on the previous year. The median monthly contribution by individuals in the past 12 months has fallen by 59p, from £1.97 to £1.28. The researchers found that although 62 per cent of respondents had heard of payroll deduction schemes, only 20 per cent had been offered a scheme by employers and only 2 per cent had taken up the opportunity.

Some observers suspect that the public is still worried about abuses involving charities. Last year the Charity Commission received 1,000 complaints and 15 cases were referred to the Inland Revenue. The commission began 12 formal enquiries into charities. It examined the accounts of 4,000 organisations and investigations were set

In the past two years the commission, headed by a new chief commissioner, Robin Guthrie, has managed to implement 20 of the recommendations made by Sir Philip Woodfield in a report into the organisation's policing powers. New legislation will be needed before another 26 recommendations can be introduced.

The commission has expanded the role of its monitoring and investigation unit and has increased its staff from 14 to 40. Last April, it finished transferring all its records onto a computer database.

The commission started a year-long census last month; it is asking all registered charities to update information on the central register. The unit estimates that up to 50 per cent of charities will not respond. The real detective work will then begin.

Leading article, page 17

### TOP 10 DONORS (COMPANIES)

NetWest	£12,498,000
British Telecom	£12,309,000
Barclays	£10,406,000
BP	£9,000,000
Shell Gas	£5,976,000
TSB	£5,775,000
IBM	£5,148,000
Tesco	£4,663,000
IBM	£4,071,000

### TOP 20 FUND RAISERS

	Voluntary income	Admin expenditure
Oxfam	£8,265,000	£2,023,000
NSPCC	£4,416,000	£1,468,000
Royal National Lifeboat Institute	£3,647,000	—
Save the Children Fund	£3,526,000	£2,985,000
Imperial Cancer Research Fund	£3,502,000	—
Cancer Research Campaign	£31,689,000	—
Salvation Army	£29,857,000	£717,000
Charity Projects Ltd	£27,559,000	£2,713,000
Barnardo's	£25,779,000	£152,000
Guide Dogs for the Blind	£22,868,000	£1,649,000
Age Concern	£22,349,000	£1,105,000
Disability Sport	£21,810,000	£1,095,000
Age UK	£21,543,000	£344,000
War on Want	£20,705,000	£520,000
British Heart Foundation	£20,457,000	£1,421,000
British Red Cross Society	£19,416,000	£1,346,000
World Wide Fund for Nature	£18,899,000	£81,000
Christian Aid	£18,456,000	£597,000
Royal National Institute for the Blind	£16,907,000	£572,000
Marie Curie Memorial Foundation	£14,290,000	£244,000

## Police fear car dump insurance racket

By QUENTIN COWDRY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

**P**OLICE in London believe that a substantial number of people are dumping ageing cars in scrapyards and informing insurance companies they have been stolen.

Commander Richard Monk, head of Scotland Yard's community involvement and crime branch, said yesterday that nearly half the cars stolen in the capital were never recovered. "It is quite possible some of these have never been stolen, ending up in a crusher and the insurance money being collected," he said.

In the year ending on September 30, 71,900 vehicles were missing in the capital, but of those just 37,000 were recovered. Police know that some thieves steal low-value cars to sell to scrapyards, but only recently has the possibility of widespread fraud by car owners emerged.

Jaguar is to halt production of £50 million worth of cars and cut up to 800 jobs at its Middlesbrough factory as the company tries to cope with falling sales caused by economic conditions in Britain and the United States (Kevin Eason writes).

The jobs will be lost through natural wastage and early

retirement as the company moves towards flexible working rotas next year. These were agreed as part of the 12.5 per cent pay package accepted by the workforce last week.

Production is expected to drop from last year's record 48,000 cars to 45,000 this year and as low as 42,000 in 1991, about the same as 1986 levels.

The company's 9,500 workers are being told that Jaguar needs to cut output of about 2,000 luxury limousines and sports models, equivalent to two weeks' production.

Motoring, page 33

# CHRISTMAS AT DIXONS

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# Girl describes how she was abducted then left for dead

By MICHAEL HORNELL

A YOUNG schoolgirl described yesterday how she fell into "a deep sleep" and a frightening dream as a man with a moustache strangled her on Devil's Dyke on the South Downs, where he left her for dead after a sexual assault.

During a 50-minute courtroom ordeal, the girl, now aged eight, told a jury of her abduction and 14-mile drive in the boot of a car to the East Sussex landmark.

Lewes Crown Court has been told that Russell Bishop, aged 24, an unemployed labourer from Brighton, snatched the girl as she roller-skated past his stolen red Ford Cortina on February 4 and strangled her, rendering her "mercifully unconscious" before he began his assault.

Bishop, a father of two, who denies kidnapping, attempted murder, attempting to strangle with intent to enable him to commit indecent assault, and indecent assault, listened intently as the girl gave evidence



Mr Justice Nolan: ordered accused from the dock

## Jack Slipper wins £50,000 for BBC libel

Former Det Chief Supt Jack Slipper won £50,000 libel damages from the BBC in the High Court yesterday over allegations that he was incompetent and unprofessional.

Mr Slipper, aged 66, had sued the BBC over a film called *The Great Paper Chase* about his attempts to bring the train robber Ronald Biggs back from Brazil. His counsel, Desmond Browne, QC, said that Mr Slipper had found and detained Biggs, but was unable to return him to Britain. "The events were recounted in the film in such a way as to suggest, quite wrongly, that Mr Slipper had set about his mission in an incompetent and unprofessional manner."

The BBC apologised and agreed to pay the damages and costs, which may take the total bill to £50,000.

**Councillor arrest**  
A Liverpool councillor and another man have been arrested by police investigating alleged corruption in the city. The men, who have not been named, were arrested on Wednesday night and were yesterday waiting to be questioned. Police said the arrests were not connected with the arrest last month of Derek Hanson, the former deputy leader of Liverpool city council, and 21 others.

**Fast continues**  
Desmond Ellis, the first alleged IRA member to be extradited to mainland Britain from the Irish Republic, was yesterday reported to be continuing his hunger strike after being remanded in custody. He began the hunger strike 37 days ago in an Irish prison. On Wednesday he was flown to London to face charges before Bow Street magistrates of conspiracy to cause explosions and possession of explosives.

## Charges dropped over Iraq supergun

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

CUSTOMS investigators yesterday dropped all charges against a businessman and a scientist accused earlier this year of illegally exporting parts of a giant artillery weapon destined for Iraq. The charges were brought after sections of high-grade piping were seized at a British port.

Peter Mitchell, aged 43, arrested as managing director of Walter Somers, an engineering company near Birmingham, had been accused of one charge of exporting prohibited items. Dr Christopher Cowley, aged 52, a scientist, of Horrells, Bristol, faced two charges of exporting prohibited items.

Sheriff magistrates were told that customs officials still believed that the eight sections of steel piping would have been used to make a gun. Annabelle Bolt, counsel for the prosecution, said, however, that the question was not

through the bushes, there was a muddy path and I was still a bit dizzy and I was trying to run but I kept falling over. I saw this car and there were some nice people there. They helped me. They put me with them in their car and they phoned the hospital."

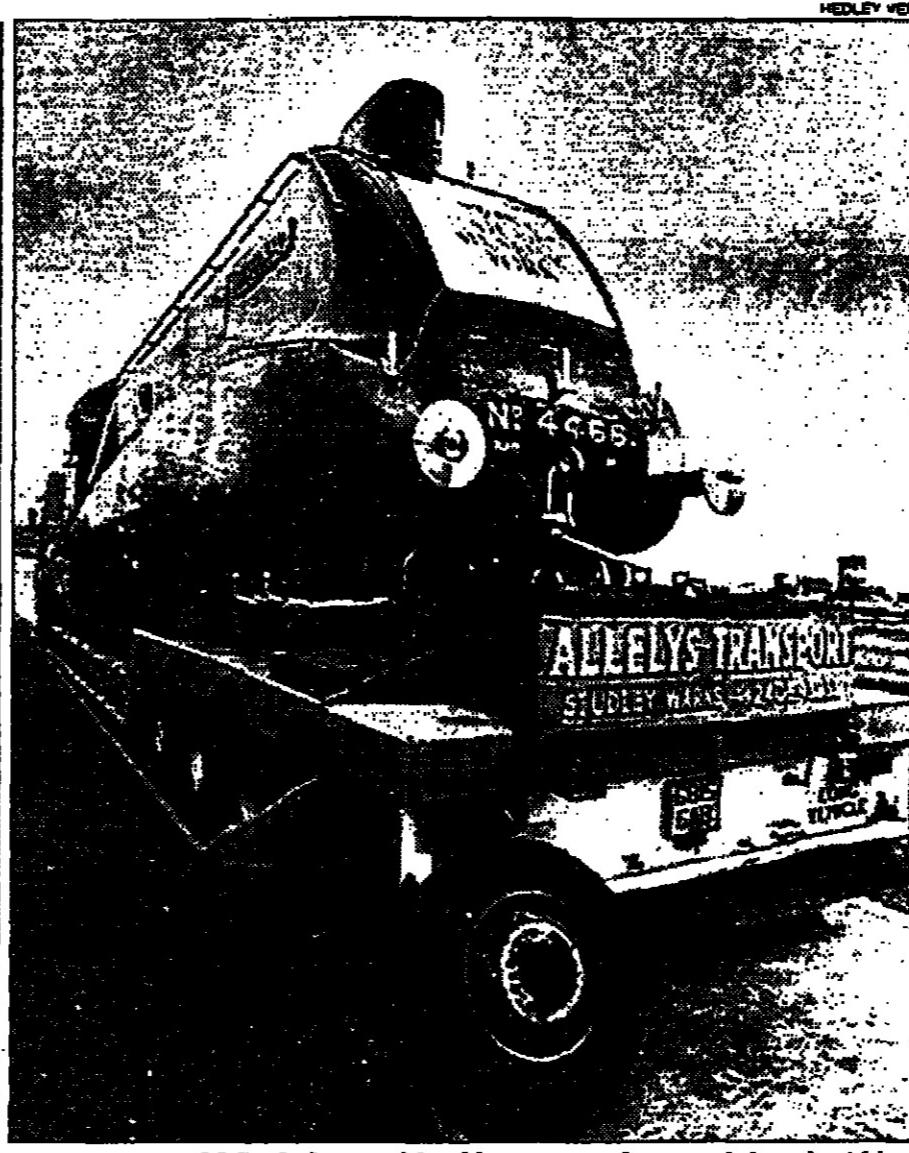
She had taken police officers and her mother to the spot where she had been abducted.

The girl described how, through a chink of light in the boot lid, she had found the hammer as well as a chisel, a can of WD40, a screwdriver and an orange pen.

Three days after the assault, she attended an identity parade and picked out "number nine" — Russell Bishop. Under cross-examination, she said that people at school had told her the name of the man she had picked out, but she "kept forgetting it".

She could not remember seeing the man's face when he grabbed her from behind. But she had noticed while he was strangling her a gold watch with a gold strap on his wrist.

The trial continues today.



Out of steam: Mallard, the record-breaking steam engine, stranded on the A64 near Tadcaster yesterday after a wheel fell off the transporter carrying it from Swindon to the railway museum in York, where it was due on Wednesday

## Blake case pair lose fight to stop trial

TWO peace campaigners yesterday failed in their High Court attempt to avoid prosecution for allegedly helping the spy George Blake to escape from prison and flee to the Soviet Union 24 years ago.

Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Hutchison rejected a claim that it would be "oppressive" and an abuse of the law for the trial of Patrick Pottle and Michael Randle to go ahead.

Their lawyers unsuccessfully argued in an application for judicial review that a high-level policy decision was taken by police and security services 20 years ago not to investigate and prosecute the pair because they were only "little fish" in the escape and "the big fish" had got away.

Lord Justice Watkins said it was an extraordinary and unique case. The delay in bringing the two men to trial was "obviously very long indeed — but not so long as to disable the vast majority of the people of this country, we think, from recalling the consternation caused by the escapade of Blake and its serious implications".

Some people might sympathise with Mr Randle, aged 56, an academic, of Hollingwood Lane, Bradford, and Mr Pottle, aged 52, a retired antiques dealer, of Northview Road, Crouch End, north London. "Whether that sympathy is misplaced is not for us to say." However, the decision of Mr Justice Macpherson in April at the Central Criminal Court to allow the trial to proceed could not be criticised in principle.

Afterwards Mr Pottle said: "We are not afraid of a trial. We do not fear one and have always expected one. We would be happy for a jury to hear our case."

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Le Creuset Fondue Set. Was £140 now £126

**THE TIMES**  
THE Times gained more readers in April to September this year over 1989 than any other national daily newspaper. Its readership rose by 13.4 per cent to 1,140,000 in the six months to the end of September, the latest newspaper industry national readership survey has found.

BRITISH Sky Broadcasting is expected to find out today whether it can continue broadcasting on BSB's Marco Polo satellite.

The Independent Broadcasting Authority, which could revoke BSB's licence on the grounds that the merged group breaks cross-media ownership regulations in the 1981 Broadcasting Act, is expected to rule today that the merger breached its contract with BSB. At present, News International owns 50 per cent of the merged group.

The IBA said that it would issue a statement today. It is thought that the IBA would not force BSkyB off the Marco Polo satellite until BSB subscribers have had their squat replaced by Sky dishes.

George Russell, chairman of the IBA, said last night that the merger had wide-ranging repercussions for viewers, manufacturers, independent producers, and broadcasting regulation.

■ Mike Vanderkar, former advertising sales director of BSB, left the company of his own accord. He was not asked to leave by the merged BSkyB, as reported in *The Times* last week.

The NRS findings come as new Audit Bureau of Circulation (ABC) figures reveal slight drops in circulation for *The Times*, *The Independent* and *The Guardian* during October, mainly as a result of the downturn in consumer spending.

Circulation of *The Times* is down 0.67 per cent on September. *The Independent* sold 415,401 and *The Guardian* 426,124.

BATH BIRMINGHAM BOURNEMOUTH BRIGHTON BRISTOL BRONLEY CAMBRIDGE  
CANTERBURY CARDIFF CHELMSFORD CHELTENHAM CHESTER CROYDON DARLINGTON  
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LEEDS LEICESTER LONDON NW2 SW3 W1 MAIDENHEAD MANCHESTER MILTON KEYNES NORWICH  
OXFORD SOLIHULL SOUTHAMPTON TUNBRIDGE WELLS WALLINGFORD WORCESTER WYTHENSHAW YORK









# Squatter violence brings down ruling coalition in Berlin

FROM ANNE MCALVOY IN BERLIN AND IAN MURRAY IN BONN

BERLIN'S left-wing red-green coalition collapsed last night after the police raid on occupied tenements in the east of the city on Wednesday, which led to two days of rioting in Berlin and other German cities.

The 17 MPs of the Alternative List who formed the government in Berlin together with the Social Democrats, held several hours of talks on whether to quit the coalition.

A meeting of the Alternative List's branches on Wednesday night had recommended that the movement should withdraw immediately in protest at the senate's decision to order police to storm the squats and forcibly evict the inhabitants.

Its leader, Renate Künast, said the SPD had failed to keep its promise to consult its coalition partner on big police actions before it decided to clear the 12 occupied tenements by force. Frau Künast said the move had provoked violence from the squatters which resulted in two days of rioting, 200 arrests and serious injuries to four policemen and several of the protesters.

Two Alternative List MP's were later discovered by police in the occupied tenements but were released in accordance with parliamentary immunity regulations.

spokesman said the city had never experienced such a "concentrated operation of chaos". In Cologne at midnight about 50 masked youths tore through the city centre, smashing 26 windows in a luxury shopping area. Police arrested three people, all squatters, who said that the attack had been mounted in support of those battling with the authorities in Berlin.

A breach less than three weeks before the all-German elections makes a grand coalition of Social and Christian Democrats more likely in Berlin than another red-green co-operation.

Several thousand demonstrators marched through the city on Wednesday night in support of the evicted squatters. They carried banners accusing the police of "state violence" and chanted "no return to the violent thirties".

The violence in Berlin spilled over into cities in North Rhine-Westphalia and Lower Saxony. Masked supporters of the squatters took to the streets causing thousands of marks of damage. Their raids were similar and all took place over the same short period of time. Police believe that they could well have been co-ordinated centrally by anarchist groups.

One of the worst incidents was in Hanover early yesterday when a group went on the rampage in the centre, smashing 28 shop windows in just five minutes. A police



Scenes of disaster: a Swiss fireman inspecting the wreckage of the Alitalia DC 9, which crashed on approach to Zurich airport, killing all 46 people on board. Investigators said it had been flying below the normal altitude

## Crashed airliner was flying too low

Zurich - An Italian airliner that crashed north of here, killing all 46 people on board, was flying too low as it headed for a landing at Zurich's Kloten airport, investigators said yesterday.

The Alitalia DC 9, which took off from Milan, was flying about 975 ft below the normal altitude for aircraft approaching the airport, according to local police and air

controllers. Six Americans, two Japanese and a young Italian actor were among those killed, a spokesman for the Italian carrier said in Rome. The only Briton among the passengers was named as Martin John Hodgson, aged 35.

A police spokesman, Eugen Thomann, said the 40 passengers and six crew were killed instantly when the plane crashed into a wooded hill and

burst into flames. Swiss aviation experts found the plane's flight recorder on Wednesday night and sent it for laboratory decoding. Alitalia's general director, Ferruccio Pavolini, has gone to Zurich to help Swiss investigators investigating the crash, the airline said in Rome.

The DC 9 crashed in darkness near the village of Stadel, close to the German border and about six miles north of the airport. Officials said the pilot reported nothing amiss, and, although it had been raining, visibility was good and there was no fog in the region.

The aircraft disappeared from radar screens two minutes before its scheduled landing. When it crashed, Mr Thomann said, the plane blew apart on impact and burst into flames. Debris was scattered over a wide area, with only the tail section and engines left intact. Remains of the victims were taken to Zurich for identification.

Firemen, police and rescue teams continued sifting through debris yesterday. Some witnesses said they saw a flash of light and heard an explosion seconds before the aircraft crashed into the hillside.

The crash was the worst in Switzerland since April 1973, when a British aircraft crashed near Basle with the loss of 108 lives. The last big crash involving an Italian passenger plane was in October 1986, when an ATR 42 aircraft crashed at Coca di Trezzo, near Como, killing 37 people (AFP).

The crowd roared and shouted anti-government slogans, including: "Iliecu, you will meet your death in Brasov". President Iliecu has long been a target of those opposed to his National Salvation Front because of his communist past.

Yesterday's demonstrations were the first serious protest since big price increases were introduced two weeks ago. One man held a placard saying: "We want bread not lies." Another held a banner with a picture of a shoe on it. Next to the shoe was its new price, about 10 days' salary.

## Marchers attack Romanian rulers

By TIM JUDAH  
IN BRASOV AND  
OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THOUSANDS of protesters marched in cities across Romania yesterday, many of them demanding the resignation of the government of Petre Roman, the prime minister.

More than 100,000 took to the streets of Bucharest, and 10,000 marched in the Transylvanian city of Brasov, and another 15,000 in Timisoara. It was one of the strongest anti-government demonstrations since miners were called into Bucharest last June to put a violent end to riots and demonstrations in the capital.

Yesterday's meetings were called ostensibly to commemorate the 1987 Brasov uprising. Three years ago workers in the city's Red Flag lorry plant, angered by a seven-day working week, falling wages and miserable living conditions, began a march which culminated in the sacking of the local communist party headquarters. Those events are hailed as the first real attempt by Romanians to rid themselves of the dictatorship of Nicolae Ceausescu.

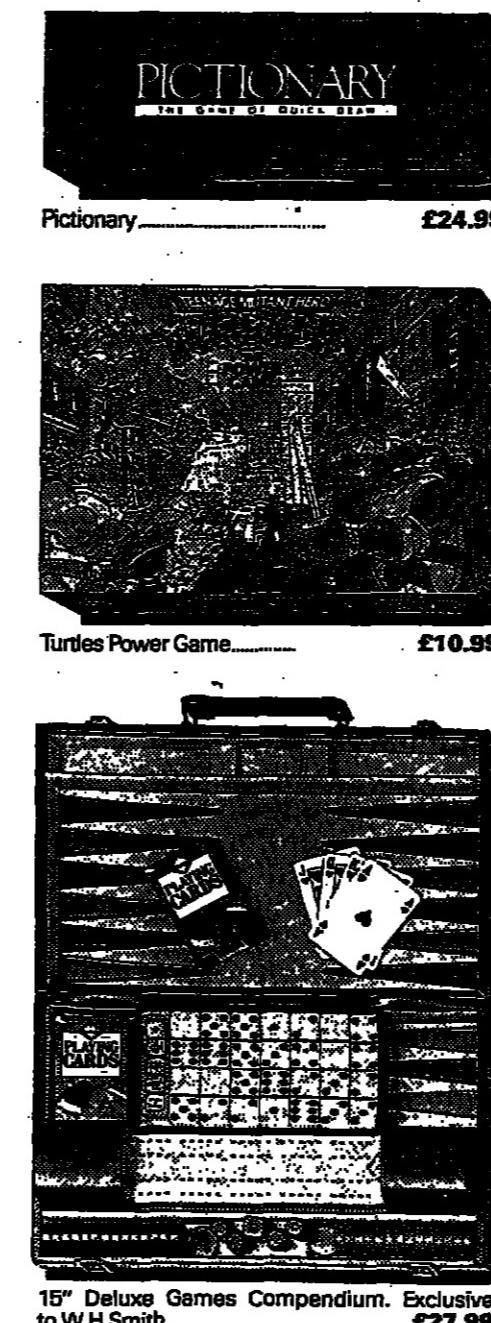
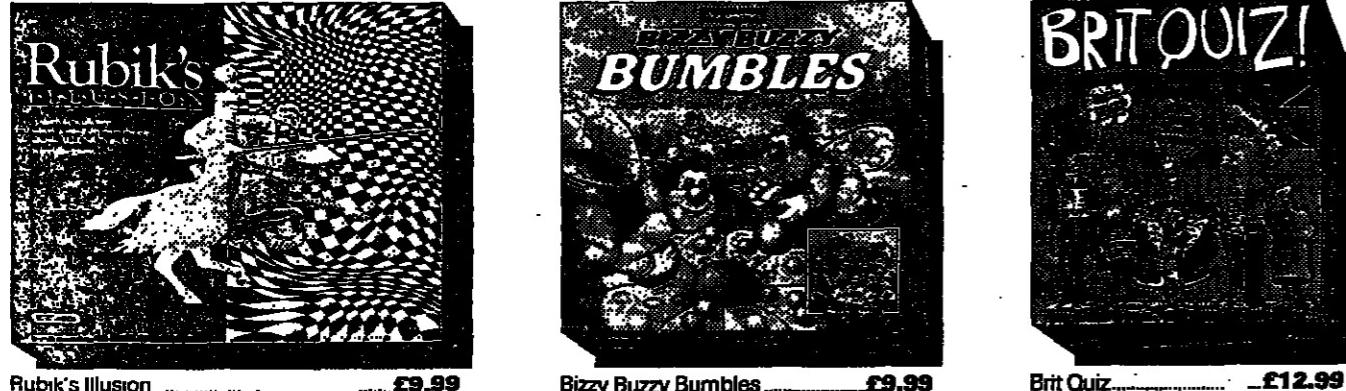
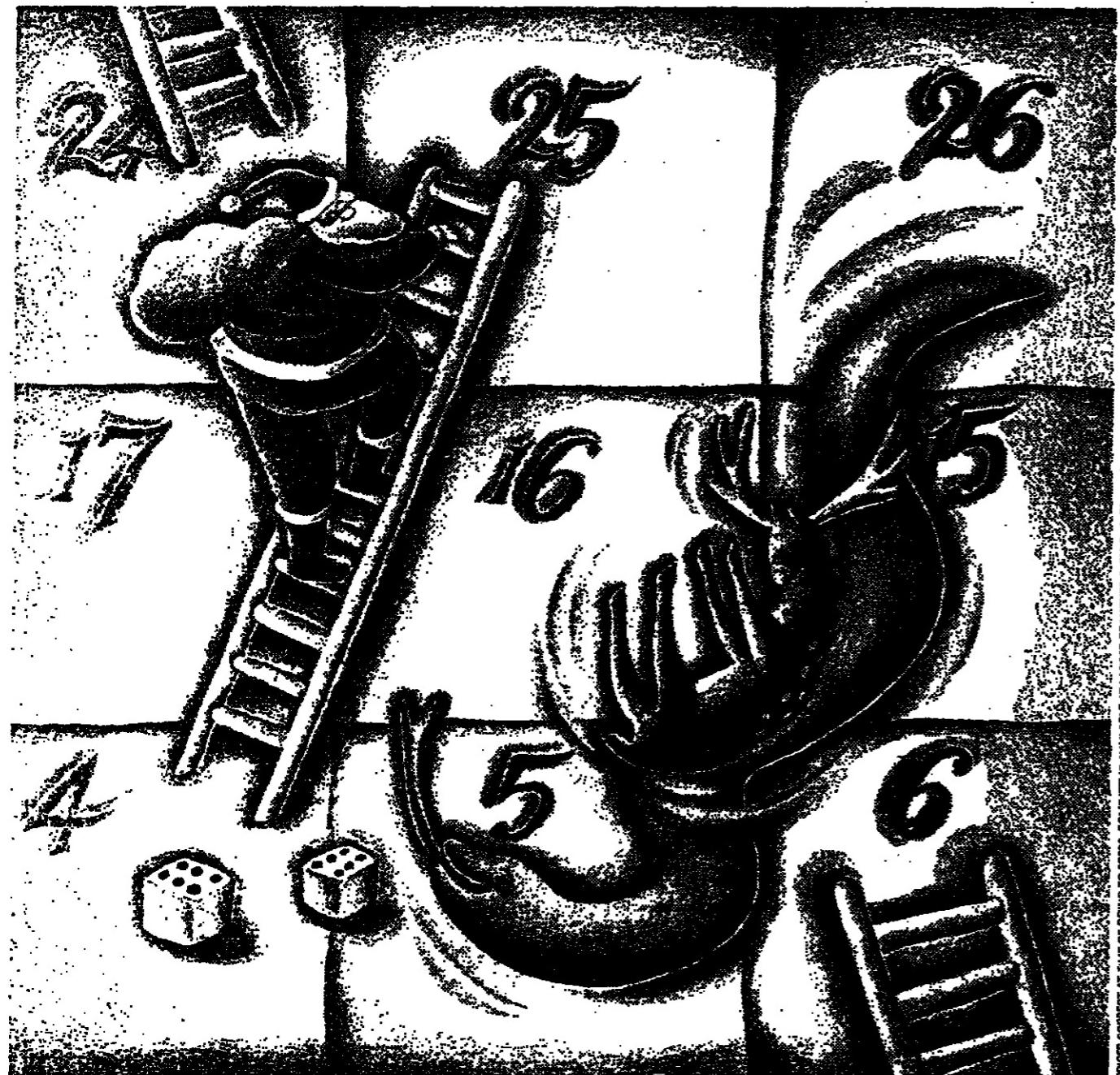
Yesterday's protesters in Brasov heard speeches made by a number of anti-government personalities. The best known was the dissident Dumitru Cornea. He said: "Today is a day of sadness. We have met with failure. The people who judged the Brasov demonstrators in 1987 are the same people who judged those who fired on the revolutionary crowds in 1989."

The crowd roared and shouted anti-government slogans, including: "Iliecu, you will meet your death in Brasov". President Iliecu has long been a target of those opposed to his National Salvation Front because of his communist past.

Yesterday's demonstrations were the first serious protest since big price increases were introduced two weeks ago. One man held a placard saying: "We want bread not lies." Another held a banner with a picture of a shoe on it. Next to the shoe was its new price, about 10 days' salary.



## Slip into Smith's for all sorts of fun and games this Christmas.



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FATHER THEY LOVE  
AS MUCH  
AS THEIR OWN.



Christmas is just around the corner, and so too is Santa Claus. This Saturday he'll be arriving at Harrods, following a merry parade of marching band and storybook characters, including Beauty, the Prince and Snow White. The parade will come down Brompton Road at 8.30am, reaching Harrods Door 7 some 20 minutes later.

From here, Santa and friends will lead your children up to his grotto in the Toy Kingdom, where they'll hear the magical story of Beauty and the Beast. This classic tale is also reproduced in a specially commissioned book, available in the Children's Book Department, priced £4.50. Santa will be welcoming children into his grotto from 9.45am onwards. So bring them to meet the father they'll always look up to. Especially when they're sitting on his knee.

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But let's not over-react. Nuclear waste should be put in context with other, often more hazardous, materials. Highly infectious hospital waste, and some industrial waste containing mercury, for instance, may remain hazardous for ever. Radioactive waste decays with time.

The key to how safe it can be, is how properly it is managed and looked after. That's why we at British Nuclear Fuels are spending over £2 billion on a programme which allows us to continue dealing safely with nuclear waste.

A major misconception is that all nuclear waste is the same.

Not true. In fact, it falls into three distinct types which emit varying intensities of radiation.

Consequently, they are safely dealt with in completely different ways.

The most radioactive is High Level Waste, which results from reprocessing spent nuclear fuel.

We can recycle 97% of spent fuel into new fuel. It is the remaining 3% waste that must be carefully dealt with.

At present, high level waste is stored inside double-walled, cooled stainless steel tanks enclosed in thick concrete walls.

However, we have brought into operation a process called 'vitrification' in which liquid waste is turned into powder, converted into glass and sealed inside stainless steel containers to be kept safe for the indefinite future.

This method reduces the waste to 1/3 of its original volume.



Or, if you want to look at it another way, all the high level waste produced at Sellafield in the last 30 years could easily be contained in just 4 double-decker buses.

A far less radioactive type of nuclear waste, known as Intermediate Level Waste, occurs when the nuclear fuel rods are stripped in the first mechanical stage of reprocessing.

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At the moment, sites at Sellafield and at Dounreay in Scotland are under scrutiny from geologists to see whether either of them is suitable

for a deep underground repository.

The least radioactive waste of all is Low Level Waste, such as paper towels, gloves, protective clothing and laboratory equipment which not only come from the nuclear industry but from hospitals, research laboratories and other industries where radioactive materials are handled.

Despite the fact that radiation from low level waste is negligible, we take no chances in the way that we deal with it.

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If you'd like to know more about the way we manage nuclear waste, write to Information Services, Risley, Warrington WA3 6AS for our nuclear waste brochure, or our video.

Better still why not come and visit us at the Sellafield Visitors Centre in West Cumbria.

You'll discover that the future of nuclear waste couldn't be in safer hands.

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Managing waste at Sellafield.

# Palestinians mark 'independence day' in homes and hearts

PALESTINIANS woke at 5am yesterday on what they regard as Palestine Independence Day to the sound of loud-hailers on army vehicles warning Arabs to stay indoors or face punishment. The response was defiance; women appeared in Palestinian national costume and young Arab boys, forbidden to sing or chant Palestinian slogans, gathered on street corners to blow a chorus of wooden whistles.

Angered, but under orders to keep casualties low, troops fired in the air and chased the boys indoors. One or two still managed to string balloons in the banned colours of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation — red, green and black — across the street. One boy waved our car to a halt and tied a balloon to the car aerial. "We want

our own country," he shouted in English. "Palestine."

In Gaza, thousands of Arabs

poured on to the streets to sound car horns and set off fireworks in the early hours yesterday before the curfew, confining a million Palestinians to their homes took effect.

Yet despite the muted defiance, independence seems as remote as ever two years to the day since the Palestine National Council, meeting in Algiers, declared a theoretical state of Palestine in the West Bank and Gaza. The move came after concessions by the PLO, which accepted the concept of two states in former Palestine, one Arab and one Jewish.

Nearly three years after the *intifada* or Palestinian uprising began, however, Israeli authorities

are if anything tightening their grip and have even introduced a gravel-shooting cannon to

being targeted by the Israeli security forces.

"To street radicals, someone like Radwan Abu Ayash is so moderate as to be almost suspect," said Moni Rishmawi, a Palestinian human rights lawyer.

He appeared on Israeli television and was always one of the first Palestinians to be consulted by visiting Western politicians. By arresting him Israelis can only encourage the emergence of a more extreme leadership.

Another of those arrested this

week, Dr Zaid Abu Zaid, had even been invited in the past to lecture to Israeli officers on the Palestinian question.

In the wake of the arrests, the Palestinian mood is one of frustration and anger, with the traditional leadership, based on the professional classes and leading Arab families, increasingly unable to prevent a turn to extremism.

Time and again leading figures say that the fervent support given to President Saddam Hussein by young Palestinians is based not on admiration for the regime in Baghdad but rather on gratitude for any link; and secondly, the resurgence of the *intifada* following the Temple Mount killings last month has forced the Israelis to re-institute a "green line" between Israel and the occupied territories,

"We have high hopes of moves on the international stage toward negotiations with Israel on independence."

Her father, Abdullah, agrees. "People always used to accuse us of being negative towards Israel. Since the Algiers declaration we have been begging the Israelis to negotiate — only to find that it is they who are negative."

Amid the dimmed celebrations, Palestinians see two glimmers of hope: a solution of the confrontation over Kuwait could involve an Israeli-Palestinian settlement as well, despite Western rejection of any link;

and secondly, the resurgence of the *intifada* following the Temple Mount killings last month has forced the Israelis to re-institute a "green line" between Israel and the occupied territories,

## Baghdad denounces US troop exercise

Dhahran — The United States yesterday launched a beach assault exercise involving hundreds of troops, 16 warships and 1,100 aircraft in a move denounced by Baghdad as a warlike provocation (Reuter reports). All branches of the American military, including about 1,000 marines, are involved in the operation.

The six-day international amphibious exercise, ominously called "Operation Inminent Thunder", began in eastern Saudi Arabia, the US military said. The precise location of the exercise, the fourth since the multinational military deployment began in Saudi Arabia, was not given.

Iraq said on Wednesday that the staging of the exercise by US Marines near Kuwait was provocative and proved that Washington was preparing for war. "This is a clear provocative act that exposes, besides much other evidence, the American aggressive intentions against Iraq," an official spokesman was reported as saying by the Iraqi News Agency.

"Iraq believes in its right and its just cause ... and is capable of responding with firmness to any aggression," the spokesman said. The US Defence Department said the move was not intended to provoke Iraqi forces into war.

A US Navy spokesman said that, for the first time, Saudi military units would also take part in exercises. He added that he did not know why the exercise, which will end next Wednesday, was held in Saudi Arabia. Neither the location nor the name was meant to provoke or threaten Iraq.

### Secrecy plea

Tokyo — Japanese companies supplying the multinational force in the Gulf have asked the government to keep their names secret after receiving threatening letters, apparently from Iraq. Baghdad has repeatedly denounced Japan for joining the alliance against Iraq and some firms fear that being identified as a supplier may threaten the safety of colleagues being held hostage by Iraq.

### Chinese denial

Peking — The foreign ministry here has denied that Qian Qichen, the foreign minister, discussed its position on UN resolutions on the use of force against Iraq with President Saddam Hussein when they met earlier this week in Baghdad. The denial was in response to reports that Mr Qian had told President Saddam that China would not vote a UN resolution allowing the use of force.

### Arab plea to UN

Tunis — The League of Arab States has appealed to the United Nations to impose sanctions on Israel for failing to abide by UN resolutions on the Palestinian question and the Middle East. The league asked the UN in a communiqué to apply to Israel Article 7 of the United Nations Charter, which calls for sanctions in the event that resolutions of the UN are not respected. (AP)

### Arafat warning

Paris — President Saddam Hussein could hold out for three years if war broke out, says Yassir Arafat, the PLO chairman. He also told the magazine *L'Express* that he had been an emissary to Baghdad before the release last month of French hostages in Iraq and occupied Kuwait. Mr Arafat said Kuwait oilfields were mined and Saudi oilfields were within striking range of Iraq. (Reuter)

### Icon 'cries' peace

New York — People are flocking to see a Greek Orthodox icon that reportedly began shedding tears last month after a special prayer service for peace in the Middle East. The icon of St Irene, patron saint of peace at the St Irene Crysostomou church in the suburb of Astoria, has drawn 100,000 viewers. (AP)

## Arab leaders turn down Hassan plea for summit

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

HOPES for an Arab meeting to resolve the confrontation in the Gulf were effectively dashed yesterday when Egypt, Syria and Kuwait rejected King Hassan of Morocco's call for an emergency Arab League summit to avert war. They placed the blame for their decision firmly on Iraq for setting unacceptable preconditions for attending.

President Mubarak of Egypt and President Assad of Syria issued a joint statement after two days of talks in Damascus. They regretted "Iraq's foiling of any political solution that aims at restoring the situation in Kuwait to that prior to August 2". Iraq's preconditions had made it "difficult, if not impossible, to convene such a summit".

Prince Saud al-Faisal, the Saudi foreign minister, had said on Wednesday that Iraq must agree to withdraw from Kuwait before Saudi Arabia would attend the summit.

In its rejection, Kuwait said there was no point in a summit while Iraq continued to occupy the emirate. Kuwaiti officials, meanwhile, also announced the formation of a new 40,000-strong national army to liberate their country by force.

Thousands of young Kuwaiti men are being trained in the Gulf states and a stronger air force is being built round the core of about 40 aircraft in which pilots escaped in August. Mubarak al-Duri, a member of Kuwait's government in exile, said that this was to "prepare for the battle to liberate Kuwait, which has been plundered by Iraq". Kuwait had an army of 23,000 when Iraq invaded.

The Soviet Union, which had earlier proposed an inter-Arab summit, gave a warning that the confrontation had reached a dangerous stage and



Fellow-my-leader: columns of women soldiers marching past a portrait of President Saddam Hussein at Mosul in northern Iraq, during a parade of the popular army of civilian volunteers who have answered their leader's call to defend their country against possible foreign attack

## Service chief rejects claim Tory fight will hurt morale

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN DAHRAH

AIR Vice-Marshal Sandy Wilson, the second-ranking British officer in the Gulf, yesterday rejected claims by Tom King, the defence secretary, that a divisive contest for the Conservative party leadership would undermine the morale of British troops in the region.

President Mubarak flew into Damascus from Libya where he had talks with Colonel Gaddafi on Monday, leading to speculation that Egypt, Libya and Syria were planning a joint proposal for a settlement. The collapse of the summit will disappoint the Arab world, united in its desire for a peaceful settlement, if unable to agree on how to achieve it.

The vice-marshall's successor, Air Marshal Bill Ratten

who also takes over as the new air commander in the Gulf tomorrow, also dismissed any suggestion of morale being affected by the contest.

"The services are trained to follow whatever the political direction may be and that is precisely what they will do," he said.

The claims by the two senior officers were seen in diplomatic circles as a determined attempt to try to prevent President Saddam Hussein from profiting from the bid to topple Mrs Thatcher. They were also considered by reporters, who have conducted interviews with British servicemen and women, as an accurate assessment of their general attitude.

Mr King, a loyal Thatcherite, made his remarks prior to leaving for a tour of the Middle East which ended on Wednesday. While in Saudi Arabia, he attempted to deny he had made allegations about the dangers to troop morale, but the denials were rejected by political observers in London who said he had been attempting to deter Mr Heseltine about the dangers in the timing of his leadership bid.

On the Gulf conflict, Vice-

Marshal Wilson said that because of the continuing build up of multinational forces he was now more confident than in August that President Saddam would pull out of Kuwait voluntarily. "There is no doubt at all that he is going to lose this conflict if it comes to one."

The denial, made in a series of interviews by the vice-marshall as he was preparing to hand over his post as Deputy British Forces Commander Middle East, was seen as likely to weaken the accusations against Michael Heseltine about the dangers in the timing of his leadership bid.

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## Bush urged to halt military build-up

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

ANOTHER senior Democratic senator yesterday sharply condemned the new US military build-up in the Gulf, just one day after President Bush told congressional leaders that Iraq was seizing on such criticism as evidence of crumbling US resolve.

Bill Bradley, a possible presidential candidate, said that with last week's decision to nearly double US troop strength in the Gulf, Mr Bush had changed to a "go-it-alone strategy" that "imperilled the international coalition he assembled so skilfully".

Writing in *The New York Times*, Senator Bradley demanded that Mr Bush suspend the new deployment, and Congress withhold funding for it, until he justified the downgrading of the promising strategy of patient pressure through sanctions.

"Time was on our side. Then President Bush decided to give up on time and gamble on brute strength. He decided on an empty, costly show of force that is either bluff or a prelude to war." What President Saddam Hussein saw was growing dissension. "Now, with more troops but less unity, more tanks but less patience, we all but invite him to call our bluff."

Such criticism, echoing that of other congressmen last weekend, infuriates Mr Bush because he believes it undermines his attempts to persuade Saddam that the US is utterly serious about using military force to free Kuwait if it has to.

The administration thinks the Iraqi leader will not withdraw until he is convinced the alternative is war, and that was a principal consideration behind Mr Bush's decision to

order the new deployment. At a White House meeting with congressional leaders on Wednesday, Mr Bush produced a bundle of translations of Iraqi news stories which had seized on statements by Daniel Moynihan, a Democrat, Richard Lugar, a Republican and others, suggesting

that he did not know why the exercise, which will end next Wednesday, was held in Saudi Arabia. Neither the location nor the name was meant to provoke or threaten Iraq.

Jesse Helms, a conservative

Republican senator, said later

that the congressional dissension was enough to elicit

"handprints of joy" from President Saddam. James Baker, the US Secretary of State, told reporters that the executive and legislative branches has "a mutual responsibility ... not to send mixed signals".

In a move which would

itself undercut congressional

opposition to military action

and increase pressure on

Baghdad, Mr Baker departed

yesterday for a trip to Europe

during which he will be pressing

UN Security Council

members to quickly approve a

resolution authorising the use

of force as a last resort.

He is to lobby the foreign

ministers of at least nine of the 15 council members in Paris or Geneva, including those of

Zaire, Ethiopia, the Ivory

Coast, Finland and Romania,

before flying on to Colombia.

Mr Bush will press the matter

with the Soviet, French and

British leaders at the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, being held in Paris. The support of

nine nations, including the five permanent members, is necessary.

Leading article, page 17

## Kuwaitis smuggle out key data

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

COMPUTER discs recording details of Kuwait's entire pre-invasion population have been smuggled out through the desert, and are now in New York, where Kuwaiti diplomats are hoping to lodge them with the United Nations to prevent Iraq from repopulating the country.

The 25 discs contain the names and fingerprints of the 1.75 million Kuwaitis and foreign nationals who lived in the emirate before the Iraqi invasion.

The discs represent the heart of a sophisticated population register kept on a mainframe computer at the Civil Information Authority in Kuwait City, and linked to the ministries of health and planning. A day after the Iraqi

attack on August 2, the discs

were hidden by workers at the centre and two weeks later were smuggled through the desert to Saudi Arabia. They arrived in New York this

week, as hundreds of thousands of foreign nationals have been forced to flee the country and that Iraq has resented up to 200,000 Iraqis.

Mr Abulhasan said that the records would help to differentiate between the Kuwaitis and the non-Kuwaitis.

Mr Abulhasan said the records would be delivered to the United Nations when the resolution was adopted. Western diplomats supported the scheme. "It seems to us a very good idea," said the US ambassador, Thomas R. Pickering.

The text of Kuwait's resolution "condemns the attempt by Iraq to alter the demographic composition of the population of Kuwait and to destroy the civil records maintained by the legitimate government of Kuwait".

### Arafat warning

Paris — President Saddam Hussein could hold out for three years if war broke out, says Yassir Arafat, the PLO chairman. He also told the magazine *L'Express* that he had been an emissary to Baghdad before the release last month of French hostages in Iraq and occupied Kuwait. Mr Arafat said Kuwaiti oilfields were mined and Saudi oilfields were within striking range of Iraq. (Reuter)

### Icon 'cries' peace

New York — People are flocking to see a Greek Orthodox icon that reportedly began shedding tears last month

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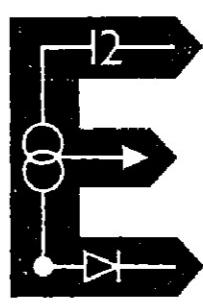
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# The Regional Electricity Companies Share Offers

# When it's flip to talk turtle

Philip Howard

**C**owabunga. There's a story for you. Or rather, there's a nice knock-down word to introduce a piece in *The Times* and shock the grave-faced founding editors whose portraits look down on our labours, not always, I fear, with approval. Approval is not the main function of an editor. But when the children in the primary school outside the gates of the word laboratory start shouting "cowabunga" at each other, the time has come to prick up one's ears, and ask what is going on. It doesn't sound like Urdu.

It isn't. For readers over 12, the strange word is the war cry and slogan of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, the craze that has swept across America like a stoked tsunami (a huge wave) and is washing through the playgrounds of the East End, encouraged by the merchandisers who recognise that a fast buck can be made from such fads. They spent millions renaming the creatures Hero Turtles rather than Ninja Turtles for Britain, on the grounds that (a) we don't know what Ninja means, and (b) the bizarre martial art is deemed inappropriate for children.

Predictably, cool kids in the south of England have found out, and call them Ninja Turtles, defiantly. In the north, the Turtles remain Heroes – another example of our new cultural Hadrian's Wall. The language is Surfpeak, the international lingo of surfers from Bondi to Malibu, and it takes its vocabulary from all quarters. Tsunami, the awesome wave that surfers wait for, is an inaccurate rendering of the Japanese *tsu* (harbour) and *nami* (waves).

Cowabunga is not so straightforward. It was adopted by Australian surfers in the Sixties as an exclamation of delight and drawing attention to oneself at the beginning of a ride. The word's ultimate origin seems to have been *Howdy Doozy*, a children's television programme in the Fifties, in which "Cowabunga" was the greeting exchanged by Buffalo Bob and Chief Thunderhead. It was broadcast to the world by the "Gidget" surfer films, and then by the influential Peanuts comic strip. Now that the Teenage Mutant Ninja/Hero Turtles have adopted it, there seems to be no stopping the word.

Surfing is a solitary sport, like so many today, such as windsurfing, and the ultimate in narcissistic solipsism) jogging. As such, more than most sports, it needs a private slang to act as a shibboleth to distinguish between surfers and profane scoffers at their mystery. Surfpeak is a pungent blend of two of the richest wells of slang in English, California and Oz. If the surfer rides with his right foot forward he is a goofy-footer if he chooses to zig-zag across the face of a wave the "hot-dogs", and if he walks to the bow of the board and puts five or ten toes over the edge, he is a coot.

...and moreover

ALAN COREN

**T**here's not a lot of things Michael Caine doesn't know, but I am willing to bet that one of them is that a cigar-box holds exactly 27. In fact, I am willing to bet 27 that he doesn't. I know where I can lay my hands on that precise sum. You will say hang on, he might just say that he knows, and how can you prove that he doesn't? If you do, I shall reply that he does know, he will also know how much a cigar-box containing 27 weights, because if you knew the one you would know the other. There's not a lot of people know that.

I single out Mr Caine for this public wager not simply because he is the national repository of statistical arcana, but also because he is a cigar-smoker, and I am a gambler. True gamblers take no pleasure in racing certainties; they prefer to give a sucker an even break, else where's the thrill? Though there is only a remote possibility that Michael hangs on to his old cigar-boxes, and an even remoter one that, when he empties his trouser-pockets of an evening, he throws his copper coins into one of them, a possibility there is.

After all, I do. Or, more precisely, I have been doing for the past year. I started because I had an empty cigar-box, and I find it impossible to throw away an empty cigar-box. Nothing might come in handier. In consequence, I now have a large number of full cigar-boxes, in which I keep things that are less useful than cigar-boxes and might otherwise have been thrown away. There is, for example, one full of nutless bolts, and another full of bottle nuts, a pleasing symmetry of uselessness lying at the bottom of the tea-chests in which I keep all my cigar-boxes. It was a big day when the tea-chest arrived. Unable to throw away such a useful-looking item, I stared at it for a long time before I suddenly realised that it was the best thing there was for keeping cigar-boxes in.

Last November, my latest cigar-box fell vacant, but I had nothing to put in it. My single cuff-links, my old watch-straps, my huge collection of two-pun plugs, sidelined by rewiring

then he is "hanging five" or "six". Like all argots, Surfpeak is designed to be exclusive.

Surfing assumes its share of ground and hangovers, who need to be put in their place. None of these are nouns; learners are wimpywusses, and a hoddad is defined as "a surfer who rarely goes into the water but still talks, acts and dresses as if he were a minor god of the sport". A hoddad is much the same as a blowhard, or a wise guy, or a wimp; somebody who claims knowledge and authority he or she does not possess.

As with most slang, the origin is obscure folk etymology; but hoddad probably comes from another surfing cry of triumph, just before he is dumped in the foam, goofy over photo. Even chaps who don't know the difference between a goofy foot and a natural can swank like thrashers (surfing snow-offs).

Significantly, many of the images are religious. A great ride is said to be like going to church, or visiting "in the Pope's living room". A great wave (or an attractive woman) is said by surfers to be "just like death". The jargon extends to the Jovian aspects of beach-party existence. Vomiting is "talking to the seas".

Surfpeak, which in California dates back to the dear, dim Sixties when the Beach Boys really were boys and before they lost their hair, has arrived in Wapping. But can it really take on here? The difference between what children actually like reading and what their parents would like them to read has always been wide. They wanted us to read *Swallows and Amazons* or *The Eagle*. We preferred rougher literature, mainly to prove our independence.

But the great gulf fixed between parents' and children's ideas of a good read has seldom been wider than today. The fanzine mags are a strange new world. Please do not write to me about *Prime Time*, tucked in the Saturday Review. If you feel like writing, it is not meant for you. All slang is ephemeral. That is the point of slang. The new generation always wants to create its own. But I have a hunch that Surfpeak will not stick in Wapping for long. For one thing, a trip to the seaside (a word unknown in American) means paddling in the murky at Southend with one's trousers rolled up, not visiting with the Pope on a tidal wave. And for another, turtur are not native creatures here, except in soup.

Much of what the Teenage Turtles get up to goes straight back to the tales of chivalry, and they are usefully free of human racial characteristics. But they fail Norman Tebbit's test. Not only do they not shout for England, they clearly don't even know what cricket is. (Nor, to judge by her use of it as metaphor, does the prime minister.) But their cry of cowabunga has the mad magic of poetry to last. Cowabunga.

Surfing is a solitary sport, like so many today, such as windsurfing, and the ultimate in narcissistic solipsism) jogging. As such, more than most sports, it needs a private slang to act as a shibboleth to distinguish between surfers and profane scoffers at their mystery. Surfpeak is a pungent blend of two of the richest wells of slang in English, California and Oz. If the surfer rides with his right foot forward he is a goofy-footer if he chooses to zig-zag across the face of a wave the "hot-dogs", and if he walks to the bow of the board and puts five or ten toes over the edge, he is a coot.

Not only did they look wonderful in their new box, they represented a major breakthrough. Individually useless, they would become useful by agglomeration: never had a cigar-box been handier. I do not think I have ever spent a happier year.

Not ended one as unhappily. Two days ago, I tried to add a pocketful of copper, but the box wouldn't take it. It was time to tot up. I emptied it onto the kitchen table, and made little piles of ten. They came, remarkably, to exactly 70. Who would have thought that seven quid could look so much? I scooped them back into the box, and drove to the bank.

There I stood in the queue with my cigar-box. When I got to the window, the teller looked at me. He looked at me. He did not start telling.

"There's seven pounds," I said.

"You'll have to beg it," he said. He slid seven little bags under his window. "Next," he said.

It is not easy, sitting at a table in a bank and counting out a cigarboxful of pennies. Who is this person? say the passing eyes. An undemanding beggar? A taleless busker? A bogus child cashing up after Guy Fawkes week? Or just a poor sod down on his luck? Used to smoke Romeo y Julieta, but look at him now; it's a lesson to us all, no wonder Thatcher's on the way out.

Eventually, the teller put my seven bags on the scales. That is how I know what they weighed. That is how he knew what one of them didn't.

"There's only 99p in this," he said.

Or possibly, said the eyes. Britain's pettest crook?

I found it on the carpet, after a pleasant grovel, and the teller told the seven ones. My mate, Michael, if you're betting, of course, you could always cheat by nipping up the bank with a bootful of coin to find out what it weighs, but take it from me, it isn't worth it.

Vernon Bogdanor on the fate of prime ministers who fail the test of collective responsibility

# Power must be shared—or is lost

**O**ne of Michael Heseltine's complaints against Mrs Thatcher is that she has abused the procedures of cabinet government, that decisions which ought to be taken collectively are made by prime ministerial fiat or in bilateral negotiations with individual ministers. Mr Heseltine's resignation in January 1986 over the Westland affair was not, as is commonly supposed, because he could not agree with a collective cabinet decision, but because, in his view, the prime minister's misuse of the machinery of government prevented him from putting his case to his cabinet colleagues for collective judgment.

The doctrine of collective responsibility, which lies at the heart of cabinet government, is difficult to isolate with any accuracy. In particular, it is never quite clear at what stage the process of policy formation has come to an end, and the cabinet is collectively committed to a particular policy. However, collective responsibility requires collective decision-making. No minister need feel obliged to follow a policy when he has been given no chance to discuss it beforehand. Superficially, it seems

a prime minister can gain enormous power by manipulating the cabinet; in practice, attempts to do so tend to redound horribly.

Only once this century has a sitting prime minister been overthrown in peace-time: Lloyd George in 1922. Like Mrs Thatcher, he was accused of abusing the procedures of cabinet government, in particular, of conducting his own foreign policy – friendship with Russia, support for Greece against Turkey – which the cabinet had rejected. On October 4, 1922, Curzon, the Foreign Secretary, complained to him that there were in reality two Foreign Offices, and "whereas I report not only to you but to all my colleagues everything that I say or do, it is often only by accident that I hear what is being done by the other FO". Privately, Curzon remarked that Lloyd George "wants his Foreign Secretary to be a valet, almost a drudge".

On domestic affairs, the prime minister used the cabinet committee system to isolate opponents and ensure support for his views. "Mr Lloyd George", said Bonar Law, who had played the leading role in the overthrow of Lloyd George, "is that all prime ministers suffer by suppression. Their friends do not tell them the truth; they tell them what they want to hear."

Only one other peace-time prime minister has sought to extend the powers of the office beyond their natural limit: Lloyd George's great

ministers, to determine the composition of committees and sub-committees, and, to some extent, to control the cabinet agenda. These powers, however, have one vital constraint: the prime minister must retain the confidence of senior colleagues in pursuing policies agreed at cabinet level. As the example of Lloyd George and Chamberlain show, if that constraint is overridden then the system breaks down, making the prime minister's position untenable.

Lloyd George, declared Baldwin in 1922, "is a dynamic force, and it is from that very fact that our troubles... arise. A dynamic force is not necessarily right". Nobody could be less like Michael Heseltine than Baldwin, the quietly-spoken, rather lethargic man who played a central role in removing Lloyd George in 1922. But those words of his at the Carlton Club nearly 60 years ago must send a shiver down the spine of Mrs Thatcher's supporters as too comes to realise the limitations of prime ministerial power.

The author is a fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford.

# Keep it up, Mr Gorbachev, but don't forget the Gulag

Bernard Levin, reopening the case of an innocent man held prisoner for ten years in a Siberian labour camp, finds the powers of the KGB untrammelled

**M**r Gorbachev must be a very busy man. With one hand he is trying to stop his country breaking into pieces, and with the other to prevent his people starving. If he had three hands, the third would be employed in placating Mr Yeltsin, and if he had a fourth, he would use it to calm the Ukrainian students. The fifth would attend to the plight of the worthless rouble, the sixth would be spent arguing with Professor Shatalin, the seventh would be concerned with the numbers of his citizens who want to leave their country for ever, the eighth would be busy worrying what the Red Army high command will say when he tells them that they must reduce the numbers under arms by 90 per cent, the ninth would be used in doing much the same to the bureaucracy, and the tenth would be occupied in trying to persuade his cynical citizens that they will ultimately benefit from his Nobel peace prize.

What I want to know is: if he has eleven hands, would he use the eleventh to examine the case of Adolf Borisovich Gorvitz?

I wrote about Mr Gorvitz some six months ago. I shall start with a brief reminder of who he is.

In 1977 Mr Gorvitz applied to be allowed to leave the Soviet Union. His application was refused, as were all his subsequent appeals. No reason was ever given (he had never had anything to do with secret work), and eventually the KGB arrested him on wholly spurious charges and had him convicted in a gross parody of a trial and sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment in the most severe category, called "strict regime". The KGB was particularly vicious in Mr Gorvitz's case, because it wanted him to accuse other people, as innocent as he, but he steadfastly refused.

You thought the Gulag had finally been dismantled? You were wrong. Here is an excerpt from what was fraudulent: he would not need

more than five minutes to see the injustice, and for that matter, not more than two minutes to give orders that the wrong must at once be righted.

Mr Gorvitz, it is true, has a monstrous problem with the KGB. For decades it has, in effect, reached everywhere, the opening of its secret archives would be enough to have three-quarters of the country's *apparatchiks* reaching for the cyanide, and its power, somewhat diminished but still

enormous, makes it quite possible that if Mr Gorbachev locked horns with it, he might well lose the encounter.

That, obviously, is a risk he will not run until he is reasonably sure of victory. With so much at stake, the case of Adolf Gorvitz would bulk small even if he heard about it. But by the same token, his freeing this entirely innocent man would hardly rock his throne, let alone topple it.

It is very difficult for us to understand the magnitude of what

Mr Gorvitz's only artistic ability. He has just assembled an exhibition — his first — of collages of wine bottle labels. Hearing of it, Mellor insisted that he conduct the opening ceremony in the Englon Gallery, which had to rearrange tables to enable him to fit in.

Wine bottles apart, the two men are on the same artistic wavelength. "We share a love of music and opera," says Monticello. And both are devoted to Harry's Bar, a members-only restaurant that

government has slashed its state subsidy by three-quarters, making 2,100 employees redundant.

The Barnard Studio spawned such famous names as Miles Franklin, director of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. The new director, Valerio Marzulli, is trying to attract foreign capital and foreign productions. Jeremy Irons is now in Prague filming Steven Soderbergh's *Kafka*, and there are hopes that Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Phantom of the Opera* will be shot there next summer.

But perhaps Havel's lack of sympathy for the film people is not surprising. Despite its artistic successes, much of the studio's output consisted of building-the-workers-republican films. It is said that under the old regime, some of the 40 full-time directors made only one film every three years, while Havel, because of his "subversive" activities, had to work as a low-paid labourer in a brewery.

With the Conservative party at war over Europe, Labour only narrowly avoided an embarrassment over the same issue on Wednesday night. As MPs went into the division lobbies on a Liberal Democrat amendment welcoming closer integration in Europe, Neil Kinnock was locked in conversation with Sir David Steel, the former Liberal leader. Labour was abstaining on the vote but Kinnock, engrossed in their talk, walked with Steel straight to the entrance of the *aye* lobby. A gaite was prevented only when a Labour whip, posted outside like a sentry, grabbed his leader's arm and asked him where he thought he was going.

## Not even a quick single...

**A**lthough it must go against the grain of her combative nature, Mrs Thatcher is heeding the advice of her advisers to keep a low profile in the run-up to Tuesday's leadership election. While interviewers lap up words from Michael Heseltine, the prime minister has been uncharacteristically silent since her Guildhall remark on Monday that hostile bowing would be hit "all around the ground".

The BBC, responding to its charter to show impartiality, has taken to ending its interviews with Heseltine with an explanatory note: "We asked the other candidate to appear," said the presenter of Radio 4's *Today* yesterday morning, "but she declined."

### College road

**I**n the latest twist to the row over the Department of Transport's plan to put a motorway through Twyford Down, Winchester College has been accused of a breach of trust over its failure to restate a compulsory purchase order on the land, designated as an area of outstanding natural beauty.

Mr Heseltine calculates that within 24 hours of announcing his candidature, he had given more than 50 television, radio and newspaper interviews. Requests for more are pouring in from all over the world, and all but those from the most obscure are being granted. The Thatcher camp, by contrast, says it has turned down over 100 requests for press and broadcasting interviews with the prime minister. Instead it is relying on such lieutenants as Norman Tebbit and Sir George Younger to defend her record.

Media heavyweights think the Thatcher strategy is probably the correct one. David Dimbleby says of her low-key approach: "It's exactly the same as the campaign she conducted when she won the leadership in 1975. She personally telephoned the producers of *Paradrama* the night before the second ballot, when all the other candidates had agreed to take part, to say that her advisers said she should not. She was upset about it, but she didn't participate."

However, she should the first ballot prove inconclusive, Dimbleby

suspects that she will come out with all guns blazing. "Her instinct is for a fight and if it goes to a second ballot I think she will alter her strategy and give a big television interview," he says hopefully.

Brian Walden, who had a memorable showdown with Mrs Thatcher only days after Nigel Lawson's resignation, says: "You could argue that our distinguished performance by Mrs Thatcher might solidify her position, but I suspect she has got it right by not engaging in a toe-to-toe battle with her challenger. She feels that

she would make him equal in status."

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"We share a love of music and opera," says Monticello.

And both are devoted to Harry's Bar,

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## COURT CIRCULAR

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
November 15: The Prince Edward, Chairman, this evening gave a reception for The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Committee in Buckingham Palace.

The Princess Royal, President, Federation Internationale, left Royal Air Force Northolt this evening for Barcelona, where Her Royal Highness will attend a Bureau Meeting.

Mrs Timothy Holderness-Rodman was in attendance.

**CLARENCE HOUSE**  
November 15: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this evening visited the Royal College of Music, of which Her Majesty is President, and presented Certificates to Howard Morris and Awards to Senior Students.

The Lady Angela Oswald and Sir Alastair Aird were in attendance.

**KENSINGTON PALACE**  
November 15: The Prince and Princess of Wales arrived at Heathrow Airport, London this morning from Japan.

Mr Peter Westmacott, Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith, Mr Guy Salter, Commander Alastair Watson, RN, Mr Richard Arbiter and Surgeon Captain Anthony Osborne, RN were in attendance.

**KENSINGTON PALACE**  
November 15: The Prince and Princess of Wales arrived at Heathrow Airport, London this morning.

Commander Roger Walker, RN was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent, Trustee of the Jacqueline du Pré Memorial Fund, this evening attended a Gala Concert to celebrate Mr Isaac Stern's 70th Birthday at the Royal Festival Hall, London SE1.

Mrs Peter Troughton was in attendance.

**YORK HOUSE**  
**ST JAMES'S PALACE**  
November 15: The Duke of Kent, Royal Fellow, this afternoon attended the Clifford Paterson Lecture at the Royal Society, Carlton House Terrace, London SW1.

Commander Roger Walker, RN was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent, Trustee of the Jacqueline du Pré Memorial Fund, this evening attended a Gala Concert to celebrate Mr Isaac Stern's 70th Birthday at the Royal Festival Hall, London SE1.

Mrs Peter Troughton was in attendance.

## Birthdays today

Mr Frank Bruno, boxer, 29; Mr Willie Carson, jockey, 48; the Right Rev Dr C.R. Claxton, former Bishop of Blackpool, 87; Lord Farnham, 54; Sir Colin Marshall, chairman, British Airways, 57; Professor W.G. Overend, former Master of Birkbeck College, 68; Mr Griff Rhys Jones, actor, writer and producer, 37; Mr John G. Stenhouse, former chairman, Stenhouse Holdings, 82; Canon H.J. Stuart, former chaplain-in-chief, RAF, 64; Professor R.C. Surridge, meteorologist, 86; Sir Edward Tompkins, diplomat, 75; Professor Michael Zander, professor of law, 58.

**Today's royal engagements**

The Duke of Kent will open the new technology centre at Harrow School, Carlisle, at 11.45; attend a dedication ceremony for the new war memorial in the Town Hall Square at 1.45; open the refurbished reception area at Cumberland Newspapers, Dalton Road, at 2.40; and, as Colonel of The Scots Guards, will attend a dinner given by the Carlisle branch of The Scots Guards Association at the Round Thorn Hotel, Penrith, at 7.40.

**Luncheon**

4th Indian Division  
Major R.J. Henderson, Chairman of the 4th Indian Division (1939-1947) Officers' Association, presided at the annual reunion luncheon held yesterday at the Naval and Military Club. General Sir John Hackney was the guest.

**Receptions**

High Sheriff of Greater London The Lord Chancellor and Lady Mackay of Clashfern and the Lord Chief Justice and Lady Lane attended a reception for the Judiciary of Greater London given by Mrs James Scott, High Sheriff of Greater London, yesterday in Fishmongers' Hall.

**ESU and St Christopher's Hospice**

Dame Cicely Saunders, OM, Chairman of St Christopher's Hospice, and Mrs Edward Norman-Buster, Chairman of the English-Speaking Union's Cultural Affairs Council, received the guests at a reception held yesterday at Danson Hall after a concert in aid of the ESU Music Fund and the hospice.

**Marriage**

Mr C. Hyder and Miss S.E. Garvie McNally The marriage took place on Saturday, September 29, 1990, at Westminster Cathedral, SW1, between Mr Christopher Hyder, younger son of Dr and Mrs A. Hyder and Miss Elinor Garvie McNally, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs W. Garvie McNally.

The honeymoon was spent in Seville.

## Dinners

Royal College of Physicians Mr M.J. Hussey delivered the Samuel Gre lecture to the Royal College last night. Professor Margaret Turner-Warwick, president, Mr Richard Turner-Warwick, fellows and members entertained at dinner afterwards.

**Old Reptonian Society**

Sir Sydney Gifford, President of the Old Reptonian Society, presided at the annual dinner held last night at Lord's banqueting suite. Mr G.E. Jones, Headmaster of Repton School, also spoke.

**Caledonian Society**

Captain Michael Pearce, RN, President of the Royal Football Union, was the principal guest at a dinner of the Caledonian Society of London held last night at the Hotel Russell. Dr D.W.C. Smith presided and Air Vice-Marshal G. Kemp, also spoke.

**Army and Navy Club**

Brigadier David Neville, Chairman of the Army and Navy

## OBITUARIES

# COMMANDER WILFRED DUNDERDALE

**Commander Wilfred Alfred Dunderdale CMG, MBE (mif),** who served as an officer in MI6 for 38 years, died aged 90 on November 13 at his home in New York. He was born on December 24, 1899.

**WILFRED "Biffy"** Dunderdale joined MI6 in 1921 from the navy, initially to work in Constantinople. He spent the years from 1921 to 1940 in Paris. After the second world war he remained based in London until his retirement in 1959. His father was a shipowner whose vessels plied between Constantinople and the Black Sea ports, affording useful cover for his son's journeys in disguise during and after the first war to observe the Russian navy in port. Biffy himself was educated at the gymnasium in Nikolayev and was studying naval engineering at Petrograd, now Leningrad, university when the Bolshevik revolution broke out. His father sent him, aged 16, to meet some American clients from the Electric Boat Company in Vladivostok. They were there to sell the Tsarist navy 12 partially completed submarines. Dunderdale acted as interpreter and escort across Russia.

In 1919 ships from the British Mediterranean fleet were in the Black Sea concerned at the possible threat presented by these same 12 submarines. Dunderdale acted as a liaison officer on board one of the boats, which was taking passage to a Black Sea port still in White Russian hands. The crew were sympathetic to the Bolshevik cause.

Having left the navy to join the secret service in 1921, Dunderdale played his part in preventing a Turkish coup to wrest Istanbul from the allies who had occupied it. Enough information was obtained for the British army to surround those parts of the city into which Turkish forces had been smuggled, whilst the dreadnought HMS *Benbow* steamed down to the Galata bridge to train her 13.5-inch guns on the Turkish war ministry building

Dunderdale's only friend on board was a seaman servant who gave him the tip that a mutiny was planned for the following day, during which Dunderdale and two other officers were doomed to go overboard with weights on their feet. With the help of boarding parties from the Royal Navy, Dunderdale successfully suppressed the mutiny, an act that earned him appointment as MBE.

At a later stage the British were invited to send an observer to accompany the imperial procurator on his investigation of the murder of the Russian imperial family at Ekaterinburg, which had been recently recaptured by the White army. Given his fluency in Russian Dunderdale was chosen for this duty. Later, he was never in any doubt about the falseness of the pretender, Anastasia. He always said that she was the Polish girlfriend of one of the Tsar's gaolers who was employed by the Tsarina when she needed an extra maid. After Ekaterinburg she returned to Poland where she was employed by the Krupp family.

operating independently against the Germans from French soil. Cooperation with the Poles flourished with Britain supplying money and logistic support. Dunderdale's main task was to mount operations in France to obtain information on the occupied French ports. He organised several successful reseaux, which reported back on naval matters, and valuable intelligence was obtained on economics and the railway system. For his work in the second world war Dunderdale was appointed CMG in 1942.

After the fall of France Dunderdale returned to London as a commander with RNR. He successfully maintained contact with the Polish forces based in Vichy France. In London he kept in touch with the Polish intelligence service in exile, a source of some friction with the Free French after they discovered that a number of Polish agents were

as dawn broke. In November 1922 Kemal Ataturk deposed Sultan Muhammad VI who sailed from Turkey into exile in the British battleship *Majestic*. Dunderdale accepted the task of paying off and repatriating those members of the Sultan's harem who were foreigners. Coming ashore from the flagship, loaded with gold sovereigns, he successfully completed his mission and returned on board, still a bachelor.

In 1926 Dunderdale was posted to Paris where he became the principal link to the Deuxième Bureau, dealing with intelligence on the Soviet Union and counter-espionage against the German armed forces. In the run-up to the second world war Dunderdale made his most significant contribution to British intelligence. His excellent relations with Colonel Gustave Bertrand and the Poles paid off when the British government code and cipher school acquired the German Enigma cipher machine. Dunderdale brought it personally to England. The possession of this device led to the outstanding successes at Bletchley Park during the second world war under the codename of Ultra.

After the fall of France Dunderdale returned to London as a commander with RNR. He successfully maintained contact with the Polish forces based in Vichy France. In London he kept in touch with the Polish intelligence service in exile, a source of some friction with the Free French after they discovered that a number of Polish agents were

nationalities (he spoke fluent French, Russian and German). A bottle of vintage champagne was never far from one hand, a cigarette held in a long holder in the other. His work for the secret service in London proved disappointing although his sense of style — a hallmark of the way Dunderdale operated — never left him. Eschewing the drab utility of government offices he contrived to work from a base close to, but removed from, Broadway. There were thick carpets on the floor and portraits of the young Queen Elizabeth and the last Tsar on the walls. A splendid model of a first world war Russian submarine dominated the room, flanked by deep arm chairs hung with gold tassels. The whole scene accentuated Biffy's magnificently antique desk. If friends or colleagues needed a Turk, a Greek or a Persian to enliven a dinner party Biffy was the man to call to bring them along. He and his second wife, Dorothy, could be relied on to make a party go (his first marriage was dissolved). To the sadness of all who knew her Dorothy died and in 1980 Biffy married his third wife, Debbie.

All who knew Biffy remembered him with great affection. He never lost a friend and he scorned convention to the end: a genuine romantic and pirate.

Having married an American he can be lived contentedly in New York with Debbie, who survives him. There were no children.

## ROWLAND EMETT

**Rowland Emett, OBE, cartoonist, illustrator and inventor, died on November 13 in a nursing home close to Wild Goose Cottage, his house in Ditchling, Sussex, aged 84. He was born in London on October 22, 1906.**

**ALTHOUGH** Rowland Emett earned international fame, and a decent living, from creating elegantly outlandish machines which served no useful purpose other than to make people laugh, he was first and foremost a brilliant comic artist. He was a master of British eccentricity, whose idiosyncratic imagination penetrated the lives of many as it very gradually accepted, but more often subverted modern technology. Of those machines, so useful for income, he said affectionately: "They are doing a little job for England. You see they spread the idea of madness."

Emett was the son of a journalist and amateur inventor. After studying at Birmingham School of Arts and Crafts, he spent several years working for a commercial art studio. Work was not easy to find in the depression years. But he did produce a number of drawings of imaginary cars which were to prove useful in later years. In 1939 he submitted his first humorous drawing to *Punch*. This was rejected as "not quite...but very ingenious" by the art editor Kenneth Bird (alias Fougasse). But his second attempt was accepted. His spidery cartoons of trains, trams and other transports of



Rowland Emett with one of his machines, the "Lumacycle".

delight were soon a regular feature of the weekly. During the war Emett split his time between employment as a draughtsman in the development of jet engines and producing drawings for *Punch*. Collections of the latter appeared in book form under such titles as *Home Railways Preferred and Buffers End*.

Emett's central creation was the Far Twittering and Oyster Creek Railway: a forgotten branch-line with crumbling gothic buildings, decrepit

steam trains and a steady staff of down-trodden drivers and peasant porters. For over a decade, Emett's railway ran to such romantic destinations as Abbots Grange and Wistaria Halt. Emett's graphic style was wispy and eccentric; his humour was gentle, sad and sometimes disturbing. All is summed up in his picture of travellers who were required to change lines via ferry, at Stygian Halt.

Inevitably, Emett's work was compared with that of

William Heath Robinson, although beyond a fascination with gadgetry, they had little in common. Emett was far more concerned with the "soul" of a machine than with the construction of the machinery; and, while Robinson's inventions had a look of solid (if bizarre) reality, Emett's creations had a "lovely desperate look, as though every minute is going to be their last".

They also brought comfort. There was, for instance, Nel-

lie, born to *Punch*, in March 1944, a steam train which met the public's need for reassuring images of the world. Nellie was a signally patriotic puffer, which remained popular throughout the Fifties and made a number of book appearances, including *Nellie Come Home* and *A New World for Nellie*.

In 1950 Emett had a chance to give tangible life to his creations when he was invited to design a three-dimensional working model of his railway for the Festival of Britain Pleasure Gardens at Battersea. The following year his strange little trains — constructed from, among other things, kettles, rum barrels and divers' helmets — proved one of the festival's most popular attractions.

So began a new career for Emett, as an inventor of what he described as Gothic-Kinetic Things! Many of these have been commissioned or leased by major industrial corporations, and others are exhibited in such august institutions as Washington's National Museum of Air and Space and Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry. Among these increasingly complex mock — and mocking — machines were the elephant-shaped Forget-Me-Not Computer (designed for Honeywell to do everything but compute); the Hush-A-Bye Hot Air Rocking Chair (with canopied carpet slippers); and the Featherstone-Kite Openwork Basket-Weave Mil2 Gentleman's Flying Machine with its revolutionary autopilot.

William Heath Robinson,

although beyond a fascination with gadgetry, they had little in common. Emett was far more concerned with the "soul" of a machine than with the construction of the machinery; and, while Robinson's inventions had a look of solid (if bizarre) reality, Emett's creations had a "lovely desperate look, as though every minute is going to be their last".

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Rowland Emett, OBE, cartoonist, illustrator and inventor, died on November 13 in a nursing home close to Wild Goose Cottage, his house in Ditchling, Sussex, aged 84. He was born in London on October 22, 1906.

**Memorial services**

**Commander Sir Peter Agnew** and Miss E.A. Crickshank. The engagement is announced between Edward Joseph Aloisius, only son of Dr R.A. Henry, of Sandhurst, Surrey, and Mrs P.M. Henry, of Thornton Heath, Surrey, and Miranda Mary, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs G.D. Kennedy and the late Lieutenant Colonel Kennedy, of Acton Round, Bridgnorth, Shropshire.

**Mr J.P. Webster** and Miss K.A. Whitney.

The engagement is announced between James, elder son of Mr and Mrs Michael Webster, of Buntingford, Bedfordshire, and Karen, daughter of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Dwyer, of Orpington, Kent.

**Mr C.J. McVean** and Miss M.C. Davis.

The engagement is announced between Tony, younger son of the late Professor David Llewellyn Davies and of Mrs Mary Llewellyn Davies, of Aberystwyth, Dyfed, and Karen, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Glynn John, of Aberystwyth, Dyfed.

**Mr S.L.S. Moore** and Miss S.M. Webb.

The engagement is announced between Stephen, only son of Mr and Mrs Rob Moore, of Botts Green, Warwickshire, and Juliet, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Robin Peers, of Castle Row, Farnham, Surrey.

**Mr M.S. McFarlane** and Miss L.B. Thompson.

The engagement is announced between Sean, elder son of Mr and Mrs M.H. Haines, of Cockpole Green, Berkshire, and Suzanne, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs R.W.R. Spencer, of Greenacres, Levenshaw, Leicestershire.

**Mr A. Shankar** and Miss P.S. Jones.

The engagement is announced between Hugo Young, son of Gerard and Diana Young, of Hampstead, London, NW3, and Lucy Waring, daughter of the Vice-Admiral and Mrs Foray, M.P., of Pimlico, London, SW1, and Bethel, Vermont.

**Mr H.J.S. Young** and Mrs J.E. Thompson.

The engagement is announced between Avi, youngest son of Mr and Mrs K. Shulman, of Greenwich, and Penny, daughter of Mr and Mrs Dennis Jones, of Burghill, Leicestershire.

**Mr J.R. Thorold** and Miss E.A. Crickshank.

The engagement is announced between John, son of the late Colonel M. Thorold, and of Mrs Thorold, of Steinby, Lincolnshire, and Elizabeth, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs A.J.E. Crickshank, of Cambridge, Cambridgeshire.

**Mr J.P. Webster** and Miss K.A. Whitney.

The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Webster, of Buntingford, Bedfordshire, and Karen, daughter of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Dwyer, of Orpington, Kent.

**Mr J.N. Woodward** and Miss M.W. Welby.

The engagement is announced between Nicholas, younger son of Mr and Mrs Donald Woodward, of Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, and Jane Amanda, daughter of Mr and Mrs H. Whitney, of Balbeggie, Perthshire.



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

## BUT CAN SHE WIN?

Michael Heseltine's claim to the Tory leadership has at its heart a brute simplicity: "I am persuaded that I would now have a better prospect than Mrs Thatcher of leading the Conservatives to a fourth electoral victory." The 372-strong electorate to which he is appealing, Tory members of parliament, has a straightforward interest in the outcome of the vote. The next general election will determine the jobs of probably the majority of them, jobs either as ministers or as MPs. The candidate who can claim more likely success at the polls will have most direct access to their hearts.

That candidate at present is Mr Heseltine. The latest spate of opinion polls indicate that, were he leading the party, it would make up ten points of its approximate 15 point deficit against Labour. While Tory voters overwhelmingly prefer Mrs Thatcher, the electorate as a whole, and especially centre floating voters, are more attracted to Mr Heseltine. This psychological effect is potent.

The simplest counter-attack is that Mrs Thatcher has been here before. Her and her party's support was even weaker in October 1981. Though none of the "wets" dared to challenge her that year, the plight of her party in the opinion polls was even more dire than it is today (27 per cent against 32 per cent). Yet within 18 months, Mrs Thatcher devastated her opponents. Likewise in the summer of 1986, Mrs Thatcher seemed on the ropes, with barely a third of the electorate professing support. Again, a year of vigorous campaigning brought her an election victory.

There were special factors to explain each recovery. The Falklands war, the Liberal/SDP alliance splitting the anti-Tory vote, Labour's leadership troubles under Michael Foot, a mini-election boom, all played their parts. But the art of politics is the art of manipulating special factors. Whatever else may be said of Mrs Thatcher, she has never shown herself a reluctant manipulator.

Even where governments have been thrown out of office at general elections, they normally do so only after seeing some considerable recovery from mid-term troubles. The Wilson government ejected in 1970 was confidently expected to win, after being written off as dead in the water in 1968. The same was true of Mr Heath in 1974, despite his troubles of 1972.

The lesson of history is to beware the lessons of history. Any statistician can see that this

## CONSULTING AMERICA

Democracy and war make uneasy bedfellows. Democracy requires publicity, consultation and compromise, all of which may weaken the effectiveness of military action. Demands that the US Congress be recalled for a full-dress debate on American aims in the Gulf have multiplied since President Bush's decision last week to send reinforcements to Saudi Arabia. On balance, President Bush should heed them.

The White House objects, ostensibly because Mr Bush's strategy is unchanged and still rests on hopes of a peaceful solution to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. That response is tactically unwise because it undermines the impact of the troop reinforcements on President Saddam Hussein and because it is not the true reason. In so far as American strategy is unchanged, it rests on the ultimate willingness to use force. Mr Bush is reluctant to consult Congress because there is no guarantee that he would win unequivocal support for military action to drive Iraq out of Kuwait, without conditions being attached (for example, not to carry the war into Iraq) which could drag out the war and raise American casualties.

Mr Bush's misgivings are understandable. A special session of Congress would bear almost no resemblance to September's emergency one-day session of the British parliament. The debates would be infinitely more protracted. Thanks to the separation of powers between the American presidency and legislature, Mr Bush could not play the same role as Mrs Thatcher. Above all, long-running constitutional arguments about which, president or congress, has the authority to order troops into battle would be given a field day.

In his handling of Iraqi aggression so far, however, Mr Bush has made a point of consultation, successfully balancing military decisiveness and speed with patient diplomacy to build and maintain an unprecedented international coalition. He can ill-afford to ignore

## FAILING IN CHARITY

St Paul's exhortation that of faith, hope and charity "the greatest of these is charity" is not impressing the average family. The proportion of people giving to charity has fallen to 74 per cent from 78 per cent last year and 80 per cent the year before. The trend away from giving — against the hopes of the present government — started before high inflation and interest rates began to empty the public's pockets.

Give-as-you-earn, the government's cumbersome scheme for tax-exempt charitable deductions from pay, has, as widely predicted, proved no more than a one-day wonder. The Treasury and Inland Revenue made the scheme as unattractive as possible since it involved Whitehall's greatest horror: open-ended tax deductibility.

Merely shaming the public for its meanness will not correct the trend. The director of the Charities Aid Foundation, Michael Brophy, concludes that charities have counted too much on tax exemptions to persuade individuals to give more. This faith never was particularly realistic. Somebody too mean (or distrustful) to give to charity from his taxed income is unlikely to be less reluctant to give from his untaxed income. The charities, not the donor, benefit from tax-exempt giving.

The most damaging new excuse for not giving to charities is that they have become extravagant, inefficient and in some cases even corrupt. This belief, fed by occasional scandals, has hurt good and bad charities alike. The blame rests heavily on the Charity Commissioners, who undermined public confidence in their ability to police the charity world until

time a Tory recovery will be harder than in 1983 or 1987. The recession has come uncomfortably late in the election cycle. The Labour Opposition looks increasingly electable. The third-party parrot may not be dead, but it still scratches intermittently and seems to hurt the Tories more than Labour.

On the other hand, Mrs Thatcher could find hope in a successful outcome to the Gulf confrontation. The depth of the present recession offers scope for more cuts in interest rates and some electorally reviving inflation over the next year. In John Major, Mrs Thatcher has an astute Chancellor unlikely to jump ship on matters of personality or principle over the next few months.

All this merely means that the electoral prospects for Mrs Thatcher's leadership must be considered at least an open question by her MPs. While her unpopularity with the electorate remains high, it has been high for much of her period as prime minister. She retains many of the attributes highly regarded in a leader, especially a leader facing economic or foreign policy difficulties: strength, cool-headedness and, above all, experience. Her less flattering attributes, lack of warmth and care, have not told against her in the past.

The Conservative party has long relied on unity as part of its appeal. Mr Heseltine has damaged that unity, albeit in what he regards as a necessary cause. That will not help the party, but it will not help the party whether Mr Heseltine or Mrs Thatcher is leader. Many party figures have been worsted by Mrs Thatcher over the last 11 years. But, fairly or not, Mr Heseltine's assumption of power would be bitterly resented by an equal number.

Mrs Thatcher can at least argue that, with Mr Heseltine beaten and silenced, a greater sense of continuity can be presented to the voters. Conservative MPs will naturally be influenced by evidence of Mr Heseltine's electoral superiority. Against that, they need to reflect on whether the factionalism that would accompany Mr Heseltine as prime minister would cement or erode that superiority over the coming months. Mrs Thatcher is a three-time election winner. If Mr Heseltine has electability, so does she. MPs would perhaps best conclude that they should decide on grounds other than whether or not their seats or jobs are at risk. To those grounds *The Times* will turn tomorrow and next week.

## Tory party leadership: Thatcher record and Heseltine prospects

From Professor Patrick Minford

Sir, In the last 11 years Mrs Thatcher's free-market reform programme has paid off massively in productivity growth, industrial profitability, falling unemployment and an end to 1970s overmanning. The candidature of Michael Heseltine for the leadership must raise acute anxieties among those who have supported the Conservative party in this courageous programme.

Mr Heseltine espouses the corporatist policies that so conspicuously failed in the 1970s, and that are still urged on us by the Labour party. It was those very policies that gave us the overmanning, stagnating productivity, and the profitability at one third of the OECD average. In the EC context they imply Fortress Europe, a nightmare that the Thatcher government has successfully fought so far, in the interests of all Europeans.

Conservative MPs can hardly need reminding of the dangers of going back to ideas of this sort. Yet these are the main distinguishing marks of the Heseltine platform: the party line on exchange-rate mechanism membership, preservation of economic sovereignty and modification of the community

charge. On inflation, the — in any case fallacious — argument of what might have been if we had joined the ERM in 1985 is no alternative to the tough policies now being followed.

Mrs Thatcher's free-market policies have brought her party success at three general elections. Conservative MPs must at all costs keep their nerve and support her; then the normal cycle of popular support will come to their aid as the next election approaches. Betrayal of their principles now would destroy their credibility.

Yours faithfully,  
PATRICK MINFORD,  
University of Liverpool,  
Department of Economics and  
Accounting,  
Eleanor Rawbone Building,  
PO Box 147,  
Liverpool L69.  
November 14.

From Mr William Powell, MP for Cory (Conservative)

Sir, Robert Peel, over the Corn Laws, and Gladstone, over Irish Home Rule, came to political grief by dividing their parties against themselves with the consequence that for most of the next generation first the Conservatives and

then the Liberals were unable to establish strong united governments.

For Mrs Thatcher the future development of Europe is proving to be a similar situation. I estimate that about 95 per cent of my colleagues are enthusiastic supporters of Mr Major's plan for the hard euro which we see as the most constructive and practical proposal for future monetary progress in the Community. Sir Geoffrey Howe has made it quite clear that Mrs Thatcher is amongst the 5 per cent who do not. To them it is designed for the negative purpose of wrecking.

It is obvious that Mrs Thatcher cannot reunite the Conservative party. That Mr Heseltine is the cause of present troubles is absurd. Sir Geoffrey did not resign because of him, nor did Mr Lawson. Many of my colleagues believe that if she were to continue in office further debilitating resignations would result.

We all know that the die is cast and the sad fate of the magnificent Sir Robert Peel awaits Mrs Thatcher.

Yours sincerely,  
WILLIAM POWELL,  
House of Commons.  
November 13.

## Howe philosophy

From Sir Alfred Sherman

Sir, Sir Geoffrey Howe now asserts (report, November 14) that "the Bretton Woods regime did serve as a useful discipline", in justification for joining a mini-Bretton Woods covering a minority of the world's financial and economic surface. This comes unconvincingly from a member of a cabinet which abjured Bretton Woods in theory as well as practice.

He had always claimed, until a matter of months ago, to have been the forerunner of the "Thatcherite" and "monetarist" (a term whose epistemological

validity I should personally contest) revolution. As chancellor he certainly expressed the unloved "Thatcherite" economic philosophy, and I can find no record of his intellectual conversion since.

No man can serve two doctrines. The economic philosophy underlying Thatcherite views makes nonsense of the claim that "an exchange-rate mechanism can be seen as an extra discipline for getting down inflation". Leaving aside the practical question whether entry into the ERM will abate one wage claim, the essence of the philosophy which Sir Geoffrey articulately espoused from 1974 until very recently is that wage levels cannot cause inflation,

only government monetary policy can do that.

There is no factual basis for his claim that joining the ERM five years ago would have abated our present inflation. Until the Lawson boom predictably — and predictably — produced inflation, Britain's record on inflation was better than those in the ERM.

The point at issue is not doctrinal correctness per se, but intellectual consistency. I find Sir Geoffrey's abandonment of this saddening, whatever its political outcome.

Yours faithfully,  
ALFRED SHERMAN,  
10 Gerald Road, SW1.  
November 14.

## Cancer study

From Dr Tim Sheard

Sir, Your report, "Cancer study flawed" (November 9), suggests that the study on survival of women with breast cancer attending the Cancer Help Centre in Bristol has come under "renewed criticism". I am quoted as saying that "the study is seriously flawed". I actually said that the study is "fundamentally flawed" and it has now been scientifically discredited.

I outlined the many reasons for this in a letter to *The Lancet* on November 10, the main point being that the researchers failed to compare like with like and that they did not take into account simple and well-known medical factors which influence the prognosis of breast cancer. They therefore failed to pick up that the women who attended Bristol were more seriously ill than the control group with whom they were being compared. It is no surprise that they went on to relapse and die sooner.

I am not alone in drawing this conclusion. Sir Walter Bodmer, director of research at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund (which part-funded the study), wrote independently to *The Lancet* and stated: "Our own evaluation is that the study's results can be explained by the fact that women going to Bristol had more severe disease than control women. In particular, they had a much higher rate of local recurrence".

This study is not being subjected to "renewed criticism"; it has been scientifically discredited.

Enormous damage has been done in the two months since its publication. I have therefore called upon the researchers to withdraw the report as an important first step in setting straight the public record.

Yours sincerely,  
TIM SHEARD,  
Cancer Help Centre,  
Grove House, Cornwallis Grove,  
Clifton, Bristol, Avon.  
November 13.

## Aids message

From Mrs Annabel Kanabus

Sir, Valerie Riches' comparison (November 1) of AIDS with heart disease and cancer is a reminder of the possible cost of AIDS in the future both financially and in terms of human suffering.

The relatively small number of people ill and dying now is a reflection both of the number of people infected with HIV since 1981 to ten years ago, and the use of drugs which slow down, but do not stop, the progression of the disease. The number of people infected is much greater now and more people accept the difficulty of making accurate estimates.

By the time tens of thousands of people are dying there will be

several hundred thousand infected. At that stage in the epidemic it will be impossible to stop the number becoming ill increasing still further over the next few years until the impact of AIDS is indeed comparable to heart disease or cancer.

So we must have effective AIDS education now; otherwise we will indeed be faced with a tragedy of enormous proportions in a few years' time, and looking back we will all have to face the fact that it could have been prevented.

Yours faithfully,  
ANNABEL KANABUS (Trustee),  
Avert (Aids Education and  
Research Trust),  
PO Box 91,  
Horsham, West Sussex.

## Plastics menace

From Mr Roddy Sale

Sir, The black plastic coverings used by farmers for the production of silage and to preserve bales are frequently left uncollected to litter the countryside.

With the progress in producing inexpensive biodegradable plastics, principally by the addition of starch, should it not be made obligatory for plastics used in agriculture to be biodegradable?

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,  
RODDY SALE,  
Dowdeswell Home Farm,  
Andoverford,  
Cheltenham,  
Gloucestershire.

authorities, with the moral and spiritual challenges and responsibilities of the day, including the search for constraints on the use of force in pursuit of political aims.

The Bible exhorts us to do justice, and also to love our neighbour. But it does not tell us what to do when the appeal of unconditional love and the various claims of justice for others appear to be in direct conflict. In international affairs the best that the mainstream of Christian reflection has come up with is the "Constantinian betrayal" of the Gospel. The facts, however, allow for a different theology of the church's relationship with society.

With its new-found acceptance and moral authority the early church found itself impelled by its own interior dynamic to accept unprecedented social responsibilities and thus to renounce the luxury of remaining an elite spiritual enclave for ever opposed to the "world". This involved a different theology of the church's relationship with society.

To the analysis and modern application of this tradition by Clifford Longley (article, November 3) and other correspondents (November 8, 10) I should wish to add the consideration that, while the forces ranged against Iraq may win the fighting, should it break out, I am unsure as to what

winning the war would mean. It might give a modern twist to the sardonic comment of Tacitus on the Roman legions that they created a desert and called it peace.

Moreover, what seems of much longer-term consequence for global peace is the unique expression of international condemnation which has been secured at Iraq's aggression. For this to acquire the important authority of effective precedent entails that, if force is reluctantly (sic) resorted to when all else has manifestly failed, then this further exercise of justice should not only be claimed to be done under UN sanction; it should be seen to have been agreed upon beyond all reasonable doubt.

Yours faithfully,  
JACK MAHONEY,  
King's College London,  
Department of Theology and  
Religious Studies,  
Strand, WC2.

authentic act of distinctively Christian worship, restored to its central place, and in a form which once more brings Anglican worship into touch with the great depth and richness of the Christian liturgical tradition in the West. They will find also that this reform of worship has gone hand in hand with renewal and new thinking in many aspects of the Church's life.

I am sure that such people will find a ready welcome in our churches and no lack of help or explanation in finding their way in what at first may be unfamiliar, or of willingness to guide them further to a point where they can make a fuller commitment of themselves to God and his church.

If they themselves draw back and say, "No, this is not for me", who then will have parted company with whom?

Yours sincerely,  
ROBIN BURGESS,  
48 Brentmead Gardens, NW10.

## Battle for basics

From Mr John D. Shepherd and Mr Adam Macmillan

Sir, John O'Leary's excellent article on basic education in third world countries ("Education", November 5) refers to major contributions being made by the World Bank and Unesco. This is good, but it is top-down; for classroom materials and teacher training the opposite approach is needed.

Having spent modest amounts on research, the Harold Macmillan Trust now has five groups of teachers ready to develop their own materials in Africa and Latin America. We have a big group in Uganda ready and willing to develop materials for teacher training together with the Ranfurly Library Service we have half-a-dozen British universities ready to supply books to a dozen African universities in response to their requests; we even have about 60 or so British writers of school books who are ready to go and help their counterparts get started.

The "wind of change" is still blowing in Africa. We must help, and a vitally important way of doing it is by working to improve basic education. Most vital of all is to help people help themselves.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN D. SHEPHERD (Chairman),  
ADAM MACMILLAN  
(Family trustee),  
The Harold Macmillan Trust,  
101-109 Temple Chambers,  
Temple Avenue, EC4.

## Turning turtle

From Mr B. H. Brock

Sir, I share Mrs Elizabeth Marling's concern (November 3) on finding a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles' Advent calendar, but surely these creatures can provide a true parable for modern times.

Living in the symbolic environment of an urban sewer, their behaviour exemplifies all that is valiant for good in the struggle against evil. Perhaps a Christian message?

Yours faithfully,  
B. H. BROCK,  
Willow Cottage, Burcombe,  
Salisbury, Wiltshire.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

# Is this the next Denis Thatcher?

As her husband's campaign gathers pace, Anne Heseltine tells Libby Purves how she would handle the role of prime ministerial spouse

**B**y late on Wednesday, the Heseltines' house in Belgravia would have made a promising setting for an upmarket television sitcom. A huddle of photographers stood under the lamp in the street, waiting to catch the star. At the front door, under a cluster of white-blond hair, was a blonde and glamorous Alexandra Heseltine. "Ooh! They're still here! Gosh, I've hardly been able to walk my poor little doggies!" Upstairs, her equally glamorous mother paced the drawing-room in short, pink dress and black stockings, cancelling a dinner party and hunting for a cigarette. "A fag, a fag! At times like this bad habits come back!" All day she had answered the telephone and stood on doorsteps performing the political wife's first photographic duty of gazing admiringly up and sideways at her husband. In the best traditions of sitcom, this was all Dad's fault.

"He honestly only decided late on Tuesday night," Anne Heseltine said, "after Geoffrey Howe's speech. I heard it in the car, did you? Goodness, I nearly drove off the road. Geoffrey is usually such a polite man." Mrs Heseltine told his family that night of his challenge for the Tory leadership. "The marvellous thing about it all," Mrs Heseltine says, "is that all the children [Annabel, aged 27, Alexandra, 24, and Rupert, 23] now appear to have moved back in. I think they don't want to miss anything. It's wonderful having them around. I wasn't very good with babies, but



Ready for the fray: Anne Heseltine says "It's the small inaccurate things that hurt... Like when they go on about Michael being dressy"

**'Well, he never did swing that mace. Someone jogged him. He's a calm, relaxed man. Obsessive gardener'**

"Stylised, religious themes, wonderful colour and highly elaborate hats. Slightly camp attitudes, too..." She rose to her feet, striking a Mannerist attitude and sketching in a hat with her hands. One could see why she gets on so well with teenagers.

She married Michael Heseltine in 1962, after helping him unsuccessfully fight Coventry ("against my best friend's father, Maurice Edelman - it felt very cheeky"). Onlookers at the wedding remember Julian Critchley making an emotional speech to the effect that the moment he saw Anne's legs, he told Michael "You've got to have those pins for

your platform", a memory Mrs Heseltine equably confirms. As for the decorative and subordinate duties of a "Tory wife", Mrs Heseltine was, she insists, very fair in pointing them out. "But I'm not political. As far as Michael's career is concerned, I want him to succeed, but I don't want it for myself, not at all. Some Westminster wives do, terribly, and get angry and frustrated when their husbands fail or resign. I don't. When he came home after Westminster I was sad for him, because he minded a lot, but not for the rest of us." And political duties? "I don't like to camp-follow. I tend to feel like a spare thumb."

Having three children in quick succession, and some difficulty keeping names ("three under fours do rather gang up on a name, you know"), her own career faded during the years they grew up. Later, she studied for a year at the Courtauld Institute and opened her own gallery, but gave it up when her husband became defence secretary in order to travel with him. "It was the best decision. And it was fascinating. We travelled in the last four years a great deal, too. We were in Czechoslovakia just before the revolution, and in Poland and the Gulf. I like to meet people and talk about what's happening and then

Michael and I talk things out endlessly. Besides," she adds honestly, "I can usually slope off to art galleries."

At home, life is inevitably well-cushioned: an estate in Northamptonshire where Mrs Heseltine breeds Hanoverian horses, the Belgravia house, and a cottage in Somerset. "I do know the other kind of life, though, you know - I earned £7.10s at Gallançez, and lived on it, too. I've been broke with Michael as well in the early days." Her present companion is running the Ashmolean Museum's appeal in the Campaign for Oxford, which she does with energy. An appeal colleague described work-

ing with her as like handling an extremely good, well-bred horse: "You suggest something to her as a possibility, and suddenly she jumps at it."

With all this can the prospect of incarceration in Number 10 Downing Street really hold much appeal? "It may never happen," she says carefully. "But it's what you make of it, I suppose. A chance to meet lots of people, anyway... perhaps introduce a few contacts of one's own in the art world. I don't know... oh well. Audrey Callaghan wrote a book while she was inside, didn't she?"

And the flak, and the downright hatred, and the ever-deteriorating tone of political battles in the past decade? Will it hurt? "Yes, a bit. Those things need to get to me. I don't mind *Sputting Image*. I would adore one of the puppets to put in the lavatory. It's the small inaccurate things that hurt... Like when they go on about Michael being dressy. It takes real effort to make him buy a suit, and as for the ties, I think the worst excesses have been my fault. And the hair. He's got a double crown and he can't cut it any shorter or it stands up in spikes."

**W**hat other camards hurt? "Well, he never did swing that mace. Someone jogged him. He's a calm, relaxed man. Obsessive gardener. And as for not taking jokes against himself, believe me, with children like ours he'd had to."

The only story which threw a hard shadow over her face was the one about her husband coming home in the middle of his mission to Liverpool after the 1981 riots because it was his daughter's coming-out dance. "It was her eighteenth birthday and we'd planned it for months and we're a very close family and it mattered to her, and he got home at 9.30 and was away at seven..." she stopped, and laughed. "Oh, but politicians are Aunt Sallies. They're there to be knocked down."

She was rather nice about Mrs Thatcher, by the way. "I don't really know her socially. But when I took Annabel to the House once when she was smaller, we ended up in her office and she crawled around the floor hunting in cupboards for the last can of Coke for her. I think she's very human, you know. I like that."

## Land where a daughter has also risen

**T**he Japanese have somehow proved masterly at marketing. Their country successfully sells itself as part woodcut fantasy of temples and cherry blossom, part neon-lit Manhattan of the next millennium, even though the real Tokyo looks as if a schoolboy in the heavens tipped out a box of Lego bricks, put a noodle shop on every other corner and left it at that.

The romantic-cum-frantic image of Japan survives because the Japanese have learned to sell themselves. With no resources apart from an electrically charged workforce, they have little else to sell. What is puzzling is how it has managed to do it so well with so few classy and innovative marketers. Eiko Ishioka, whose wake-up poster designs, television commercials and stage sets have helped to sell everything from Issey Miyake frocks to West End plays, is one of the few.

In a country that thrives on being prim and predictable, Ms Ishioka shocks by plastering city advertising billboards with naked bodies (some of them male, many of them black), pictures of provocatively-shaped peaches, and portraits of plainly beautiful village women from Africa and India that gave an international tang to Japanese fashion before Benetton made its first V-neck sweater.

Her advertising images have turned the Parco department store chain into a meeting place for Japan's young, and have kept it fashionable for more than 20 years, a feat in a country where Sony seems to produce a new version of its Walkman once a month to keep ahead of teenagers' tastes.

With book of her work published here this week, and Ms Ishioka arriving next week to make a personal presentation of her work at the Victoria & Albert, Britain is

### One Japanese woman has defied convention and prejudice to raise eyebrows on the design scene

about to get a taste of her style. Ms Ishioka does not only work for advertisers. She created designs for Paul Schrader's film *Mishima*, David Hwang's play *M. Butterfly*, and the Philip Glass opera *The Making of the Representative for Planet 8*. She won a Grammy award for a Miles Davis album cover and turned an Issey Miyake fashion show into a cross between a Broadway musical and a one-act drama: they charged admission and played to packed houses for six performances.

Sometimes, Ms Ishioka says, she feels that she is involved in too many media strands, "but most times I feel that my different interests give me new ideas and perspectives. They cross-fertilise. Also it helps me to develop a universal language, rather than a Japanese one. I have tried very hard not to be limited to Japanese themes. Nowadays, the Japanese motif is changing and you can no longer really rely on cherry trees and geishas and things like that. But when I started it wasn't, and I trained myself to look for new motifs. When I got my chance to collaborate with Europeans and Americans it came easily to me. I could work on international projects without first having to shed a Japanese skin. I would like to do more abroad. I want to direct a film. But commercials, films, posters, it's all the same to me. I don't see films as superior to posters."

Ms Ishioka, whose "big hero" is Michelangelo - "he always had a client, but he always managed to achieve his own spiritual statement, even on client work" - is so demanding that she can bring collaborators close to tears, but they work with her because the creative tension glows in the end result.

She may produce unconventional images because she is unconventional herself. In Japan, where women in positions of power and influence are rare, and women willing to flout the convention of devoting their lives to fathers, husbands and eldest sons are rarer still, Ms Ishioka is punchy, confident, unmarried and bows to nobody.

"At the age of seven I realised that my father's job fascinated me and my mother's job bored me," she says. "My father was a pioneer graphic designer. My mother wanted to be a professional woman, but she ended up being just a housewife. My grandmother told her that if she went to university she would never find a husband. So both my parents stressed that I should have an occupation. I went to Tokyo's national university of fine arts to train as a designer."

Her father tried to deter her from opting for graphic design, which made Ms Ishioka determined to do it. "My father accepted that going against the grain was part of my character, but that didn't mean he believed I would make it. That pattern has repeated itself. When I started to become well known, male rivals used to say I was only

famous because I was a woman, a novelty. I promised myself then that I would become so obviously special in my field that they would have to shut their mouths."

Ms Ishioka, who says that she likes a "strong woman", uses the image often in her work. When she became a professional art director she worked for Shiseido, the Japanese cosmetics company.

"Until I came along all the advertising had been done by men," she says. "They portrayed women as dolls who never looked into the camera and walked three steps behind men. I wanted a woman who looked healthy, who could look a man in the eye, who had power, who had the confidence to live alone."

"People expect Japanese advertising to use Japanese motifs. But why can't I use black women or Faye Dunaway? But because I use women it doesn't mean I'm just talking about women. I use women to convey things about the human condition."

Because she uses nudes in her advertisements as early as the Seventies, some accuse Ms Ishioka of trying to shock. Admirers envy her ability to make even a pile of bricks look erotic to people outside the building trade.

"There are three reasons I use nudes," she says. "First, like the human body, whether it's the bum or the tits or the shoulder, whether the body is a man's or a woman's. Secondly, 90 per cent of the people in this business use women, but the way the advertisements turned out bothered me. I was disgusted by the way male designers used female nudes in a cheap, vulgar way. My challenge was to subvert this way of treating naked bodies."

"Thirdly, to make a good advertisement you have to approach people's minds and bodies. Eroticism is a very important factor in attracting people's souls, but it was not my intention to use naked bodies just to shock or be eye-catching. But after thrashing out an idea, after many twists and turns, the result turned out to be erotic. It just happened that way."

When she was 25, Ms Ishioka says, she won a prize in a Japanese competition to design a poster for a symposium. "I only used geometric shapes. People said even that was erotic."

JOE JOSEPH  
© Eiko Eiko Ishioka, Japan's Ultimate Designer is published by Jonathan Cape, price £7.50



Beauty in strength: western motif in a promotion for the Parco store by Eiko Ishioka

Park your car in the right place and it will sell quicker.



Of all the classified car advertisements that appear in all the quality daily papers, 41% of them are in The Times. That makes it a pretty big showroom, by anyone's standards.

So phone 071-481 4000 to place your advertisement. Once your car is in The Times, it's got 1.2 million potential drivers.

071-481 4000

SELL IT THROUGH THE TIMES

**New Woman**

Over 1,000 fabulous fashion and beauty presents to give away  
(the Christmas issue of New Woman is a cracker)

OUT NOW

New Woman. You can't be one without it.

Up to 100%

May the Lord show His compassion over during this day, that I may have a son, as a gift, a prayer to the God of our life.

## BIRTHS

**ALLSON** - On November 6th, to June and John, a son, Benjamin John, and a daughter, Laura.

**ANNEVILLE** - On Saturday, October 20th, to Carolyn and Alex, a daughter, Dany Elizabeth Collette, a sister for Anne.

**BROTHS** - On November 14th at Irthling, Edith Carol, Brussels, to Garey (de) Greenwood and Andy, a daughter, Florence Louise, a sister for Emily.

**BURKE** - On November 13th, to Peter and Linda, a son, Matthew Edward.

**CHESTERFIELD** - On Friday, November 9th, to Helen (de) Brigg and Mark, a son, Andrew Tousman.

**CHERRY** - On Saturday, November 10th to Sarah Mumford and Stephen Gray, a son, Alexander Gray-Chester.

**COOPER** - On November 1st, to Gill (de) Blackwood and Nicholas, a daughter, Rose, a sister for Sophie.

**DARLTON** - On November 14th at John Radcliffe Hospital, London, to Leanne (de) Leeks and William and Louise Dale, a son, Jack.

**DAWSON** - On November 12th, to Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London, to Linda and Coates, a daughter, Theodore.

**DEAN** - On November 12th to Antonio (de) Cruz and Jerome, a daughter, Alessandra Nathalia Dean.

**DELL** - On November 12th, to Detroit, Michigan, USA, to Terence (de) Dell, God's blessing of a son, Keith Andrew, a brother for Claire.

**DELL** - On November 12th to the Portland Hospital, London, to Linda (de) Portland and Tony, a son, Tony - TJ.

**DELL** - On November 13th to Cuthbert in Carter (de) Griffiths and Douglas, a daughter, Mary Helen.

**DEPPING** - On November 10th to Stuart and Tracy (de) Murphy at the Royal Lancaster Hotel, a son, James David.

**DUNFORD** - See Gray.

**OLIVER** - On November 12th, to Germany (de) O'Connell and Glenn, a son, Edward.

**PARKER** - On November 12th to St. Mary's Hospital, Westgate, Canterbury, a daughter, Anna Ellen.

**SEALMAN** - On November 14th to Michael and Karen and Paul, a son, Thomas Michael.

**SUTTON** - On 7th November 1990, to St. Paul's (de) Lewis and Clive, a son, Eva.

**THOMAS** - On Sunday November 11th at Leicester Royal Infirmary Mr. Mervyn (de) Thomas, a daughter, a daughter, Poly Jane at St. Paul's, a sister for John, a son, Oscar, a brother, a brother for George.

**WILKINSON** - On November 14th at St. John's Chelmsford, to Peter (de) Symons and Glenn, a son, Edward.

**WILKINSON-SMITH** - On November 9th, to Pease and Mrs. (de) Ingleby (de) Smith, a brother to Jesus and Tiessa.

**WILSON** - On November 11th to St. Mary's Hospital, Westgate, Canterbury, a daughter, Anna Ellen.

**WILSON** - On Sunday November 11th at Church of the Guardian Angel, Vancouver.

**WILSON** - On November 11th to Carol (de) Morris and Adrian, a son, Alan.

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# Bold expedition to the peaks

## OPERA

The Ring Saga  
Stockland Green,  
Birmingham



Yvonne Howard as Fricka and Patrick Wheatley as Wotan in the CBTG production of *The Ring Saga*

THE sheer daring of the enterprise amazes. City of Birmingham Touring Opera having conquered Rossini, Puccini, Verdi and Mozart in reduced versions now boldly moves on to the Himalayas of the repertory and offers a *Ring* cut down for a dozen singers with an orchestra of 18, and compacted into two, admittedly very long evenings. Wagner's theatre of the world will thus be able to unfold in sports halls and other irregular venues all the way from Kendal to Salisbury, from Bedford to Belfast, before arriving at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in January. And no doubt, if the enthusiasm in Birmingham this week is any indication, it will be cheered on by the way audiences who could never get to full-scale performances.

That must be the main justification (even if one must register some doubt about the utility of the project as a social and educational exercise when the Munich *Ring* is currently being broadcast on television), since the artistic success of this CBTG production is rather less than could have been hoped. The difficulties of presenting a low-cost, tourable, conflated *Ring* are all too obviously exposed without, in most cases, being solved.

Jonathan Dove's scoring is very skilful, but what it offers is more a substitute than a re-creation. Moreover, the task of having 18 players mimic 80 can only be accomplished in the early stages of the cycle. Throughout most of *Das Rheingold* and much of *Die Walküre* (except when the organ bristles through the texture) one can be seduced into believing one is hearing the original score, but in the two later operas the imitation inevitably breaks down, and the effect can come dangerously close to parody.

The single set is a three-tier wooden zigzag, with the orchestra boxed into the bottom tier. This has the excellent effect of giving the instrumental sound some directional force and natural amplification, but the possibilities of reinventing Wagner for rudimentary resources are rarely more than hinted at. Most successful is what used to be the second act of *Siegfried*, where the Woodbird is a model on a pole carried about by the singer, and Fafner appears within a loose basket-work dragon's head. In both cases the dramatic gesture is emblematic and elegant, suggesting the dis-

closed but real magic of the kabuki theatre, and one wishes more of the production could have been in this style.

Instead of that, the acting is mostly in an undisciplined, naturalistic mode, and the costumes make no attempt to hide the budgetary humbugness. The Valkyries, in shapeless royal-blue gowns and tiny little helmets decorated with what look like bat's wings, are particularly disadvantaged.

The vocal performances run up against the problem of how to sing Wagner when the massive orchestral challenge is not there. It is a bit like asking high jumpers to vault over sleeping policemen. There is also the problem of the Stockland Green Leisure Centre is typical of CBTG venues, of how to sing anything in a gymnasium. In most cases the singers follow the acoustic and musical demands for volume, which means that they are out of scale with the accompaniment, though the more intimate, dialogue-oriented scenes find them using the opportunity to be more discreet; again it is *Das Rheingold* that comes over as the

most suitable case for this treatment. (One of the paradoxes of the *Ring* is that as its ostensible location becomes more homely, from the three worlds of *Das Rheingold* to the Rhine-bank palace of *Götterdämmerung*, its dramatic and musical universe becomes ever vaster.)

There are many impressive individual performances, especially from Yvonne Howard as a resolute, proudly sung Fricka and Waltraute; Helen Walker as a brilliant, natural, agile Freia, Sieglinde and Gutrun; Keith Latham as a rounded sympathetic victim of an Alberich; Margaret Price as a delightfully bright Woodbird; Paul Harrity as a skittish Loge; Brian Bannatyne-Scott as a solemn-toned Hagen; and Peter Sidhom as a weasely but strong-voiced Gunther. Linda McLeod as Brunhilde and, in particular, Paul Wilson as both Siegmund and Siegfried contribute prodigious feats of stamina. One is left wondering, nevertheless, quite what sort of an occasion one has been to.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

## THEATRE

The Kingdom of Desire  
Lyttelton

THE National's latest import comes as clearly stamped "made in Taiwan" as some of the souvenirs on sale on the other side of Hungerford Bridge. That is to say, it is not really western, not quite eastern, and not fully both at once.

The performers, the Contemporary Legend Theatre of Taipei, have set themselves the task of reconciling traditional Chinese form with foreign content; and sometimes the strain shows. Though *Kingdom of Desire* traces the rise and fall of an oriental Macbeth, it is far broader and more external than anything Shakespeare penned. Though it has its exotic moments, it hardly matches the visual daring dis-

played by the Peking Opera when it visited London a few years ago. No wonder the result has been both attacked as meretricious and admired as innovative back home.

Here, it is best summed up as fascinatingly different. Wu Hangkuo's scowling Macbeth, or Au-shu Cheng, Lord of Chi, as he is rechristened, does not expire directly onstage. He reels, stumbles and totters across a towering rock, wrenching out the arrow that has spiked his stomach. Then he falls 20 feet, to the ground, doing a back-somersault en route. Then he lurches and blunders round the stage, freezes for a full minute with his arm pointed accusingly aloft, and topples like a tree onto his back to the sound of sepulchral chuckles from the flies. Much that, Kean, Irving, Olivier, anyone.

There are plenty of less sensational changes. Messengers, like the dying Macbeth, tend to go in for aerial flips. Gorgeously pat-

terned dressing gowns, sometimes with flags sticking out from their backs, substitute for tweed. Duncan, King of Chi, wears an enormous mortar board, with white tassels only a bit shorter than the thin gold curtains dangling from his ears. Soliloquies and most of the dialogue is out, as are counterparts for Macduff, Malcolm and several other characters.

Chanting and crooning in the upper registers of the scale is in, as is acrobatic swirling round the stage and musical banging and clattering beneath it.

More surprisingly, Lady Macbeth kills Banquo's assassin with a sword half her size and miscarries a baby, in each case on what the programme calls "the night of the coronation party". The stress is presumably what eventually sends Wei Hsi-ming who plays the part, fluttering and wailing round the stage in white muslin like some Asiatic Miss Havisham, Macready, Gielgud, anyone.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

from leaving her, though his passion fades as poverty replaces affluence. Her love continues undiminished.

The Victorian lovers needed money; in the 1920s lovers needed luck. The setting here is the servants' quarters of a country house where a gentle footman woos a golden-hearted but deaf parlour maid married to the brutal chauffeur. Luck is what these lovers are denied, by author's whim rather than dramatic inevitability, though White might argue that Venus always keeps the rough card of jealousy up her sleeve.

The third story takes place in contemporary New York — nothing untasy about the slang here — where a promiscuous soap-sopressa brings her painter husband and student lover together, sort of, and ends up jealous of both.

White ranges back and forth between the stories, beginning with three scenes for the different wives and lovers, then scenes for wives and husbands, subsequently allowing the different development to dictate the fall of the characters. On Vicki Mortimer's elegantly symmetrical set a dozen grey panels open to reveal the artefacts of different periods, putting them into place gives the cast time to change from blouse to sloppy jeans, from painter's scruffy shirt to chauffeur's uniform.

White succeeds in showing how different milieus alter love's options, though I suspect it is class that rings the changes far more than passing years. One drawback of the structure repeats several moments when disaster, in the person of a husband, does not quite come through the door: a

JEREMY KINGSTON

**WORD-WATCHING**  
*Answers from page 2*  
**HOUSTON**  
(a) Sam Houston (1793-1863) American soldier and statesman, defeated the Mexicans in the Texas War, and achieved Texan independence. He was elected president of the new republic. Houston is named after him.

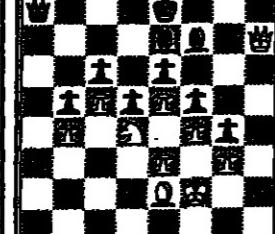
**NORRISH**  
(c) R.G.W. Norrish (1897-1976) English chemist, professor of physical chemistry at Cambridge for 30 years. His research was in the field of photochemistry and chemical kinetics. He pioneered the development of flash photolysis and kinetic spectroscopy.

**ORM**  
(a) English word and spelling reformer; Govt c.1200, born probably in Lincolnshire. He invented an orthography based on phonetic principles, in which he wrote the *Ormann*, a series of ballads in verse on the gospel history.

**DUGUIN**  
(b) Louis Duguin (1859-1928), French jurist and professor of constitutional law at Bordeaux. His view of law, on *dis*, was of something based on social solidarity through division of labour, a spontaneous product of circumstances.

## WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene  
Chess Correspondent



Today's position is from the game Andreoli (White) — Breyer (Black), Angers 1980. Now 1...Kf7 2.Rg7+ Kf6 3.Rg6+ Kf7 4.Rg7+ Kf6 5.Rg6+ Kf7 6.Rg7+ Kf6 7.Rg6+ Kf7 8.Rg7+ Kf6 9.Rg6+ Kf7 10.Rg7+ Kf6 11.Rg6+ Kf7 12.Rg7+ Kf6 13.Rg6+ Kf7 14.Rg7+ Kf6 15.Rg6+ Kf7 16.Rg7+ Kf6 17.Rg6+ Kf7 18.Rg7+ Kf6 19.Rg6+ Kf7 20.Rg7+ Kf6 21.Rg6+ Kf7 22.Rg7+ Kf6 23.Rg6+ Kf7 24.Rg7+ Kf6 25.Rg6+ Kf7 26.Rg7+ Kf6 27.Rg6+ Kf7 28.Rg7+ Kf6 29.Rg6+ Kf7 30.Rg7+ Kf6 31.Rg6+ Kf7 32.Rg7+ Kf6 33.Rg6+ Kf7 34.Rg7+ Kf6 35.Rg6+ Kf7 36.Rg7+ Kf6 37.Rg6+ Kf7 38.Rg7+ Kf6 39.Rg6+ Kf7 40.Rg7+ Kf6 41.Rg6+ Kf7 42.Rg7+ Kf6 43.Rg6+ Kf7 44.Rg7+ Kf6 45.Rg6+ Kf7 46.Rg7+ Kf6 47.Rg6+ Kf7 48.Rg7+ Kf6 49.Rg6+ Kf7 50.Rg7+ Kf6 51.Rg6+ Kf7 52.Rg7+ Kf6 53.Rg6+ Kf7 54.Rg7+ Kf6 55.Rg6+ Kf7 56.Rg7+ Kf6 57.Rg6+ Kf7 58.Rg7+ Kf6 59.Rg6+ Kf7 60.Rg7+ Kf6 61.Rg6+ Kf7 62.Rg7+ Kf6 63.Rg6+ Kf7 64.Rg7+ Kf6 65.Rg6+ Kf7 66.Rg7+ Kf6 67.Rg6+ Kf7 68.Rg7+ Kf6 69.Rg6+ Kf7 70.Rg7+ Kf6 71.Rg6+ Kf7 72.Rg7+ Kf6 73.Rg6+ Kf7 74.Rg7+ Kf6 75.Rg6+ Kf7 76.Rg7+ Kf6 77.Rg6+ Kf7 78.Rg7+ Kf6 79.Rg6+ Kf7 80.Rg7+ Kf6 81.Rg6+ Kf7 82.Rg7+ Kf6 83.Rg6+ Kf7 84.Rg7+ Kf6 85.Rg6+ Kf7 86.Rg7+ Kf6 87.Rg6+ Kf7 88.Rg7+ Kf6 89.Rg6+ Kf7 90.Rg7+ Kf6 91.Rg6+ Kf7 92.Rg7+ Kf6 93.Rg6+ Kf7 94.Rg7+ Kf6 95.Rg6+ Kf7 96.Rg7+ Kf6 97.Rg6+ Kf7 98.Rg7+ Kf6 99.Rg6+ Kf7 100.Rg7+ Kf6 101.Rg6+ Kf7 102.Rg7+ Kf6 103.Rg6+ Kf7 104.Rg7+ Kf6 105.Rg6+ Kf7 106.Rg7+ Kf6 107.Rg6+ Kf7 108.Rg7+ Kf6 109.Rg6+ Kf7 110.Rg7+ Kf6 111.Rg6+ Kf7 112.Rg7+ Kf6 113.Rg6+ Kf7 114.Rg7+ Kf6 115.Rg6+ Kf7 116.Rg7+ Kf6 117.Rg6+ Kf7 118.Rg7+ Kf6 119.Rg6+ Kf7 120.Rg7+ Kf6 121.Rg6+ Kf7 122.Rg7+ Kf6 123.Rg6+ Kf7 124.Rg7+ Kf6 125.Rg6+ Kf7 126.Rg7+ Kf6 127.Rg6+ Kf7 128.Rg7+ Kf6 129.Rg6+ Kf7 130.Rg7+ Kf6 131.Rg6+ Kf7 132.Rg7+ Kf6 133.Rg6+ Kf7 134.Rg7+ Kf6 135.Rg6+ Kf7 136.Rg7+ Kf6 137.Rg6+ Kf7 138.Rg7+ Kf6 139.Rg6+ Kf7 140.Rg7+ Kf6 141.Rg6+ Kf7 142.Rg7+ Kf6 143.Rg6+ Kf7 144.Rg7+ Kf6 145.Rg6+ Kf7 146.Rg7+ Kf6 147.Rg6+ Kf7 148.Rg7+ Kf6 149.Rg6+ Kf7 150.Rg7+ Kf6 151.Rg6+ Kf7 152.Rg7+ Kf6 153.Rg6+ Kf7 154.Rg7+ Kf6 155.Rg6+ Kf7 156.Rg7+ Kf6 157.Rg6+ Kf7 158.Rg7+ Kf6 159.Rg6+ Kf7 160.Rg7+ Kf6 161.Rg6+ Kf7 162.Rg7+ Kf6 163.Rg6+ Kf7 164.Rg7+ Kf6 165.Rg6+ Kf7 166.Rg7+ Kf6 167.Rg6+ Kf7 168.Rg7+ Kf6 169.Rg6+ Kf7 170.Rg7+ Kf6 171.Rg6+ Kf7 172.Rg7+ Kf6 173.Rg6+ Kf7 174.Rg7+ Kf6 175.Rg6+ Kf7 176.Rg7+ Kf6 177.Rg6+ Kf7 178.Rg7+ Kf6 179.Rg6+ Kf7 180.Rg7+ Kf6 181.Rg6+ Kf7 182.Rg7+ Kf6 183.Rg6+ Kf7 184.Rg7+ Kf6 185.Rg6+ Kf7 186.Rg7+ Kf6 187.Rg6+ Kf7 188.Rg7+ Kf6 189.Rg6+ Kf7 190.Rg7+ Kf6 191.Rg6+ Kf7 192.Rg7+ Kf6 193.Rg6+ Kf7 194.Rg7+ Kf6 195.Rg6+ Kf7 196.Rg7+ Kf6 197.Rg6+ Kf7 198.Rg7+ Kf6 199.Rg6+ Kf7 200.Rg7+ Kf6 201.Rg6+ Kf7 202.Rg7+ Kf6 203.Rg6+ Kf7 204.Rg7+ Kf6 205.Rg6+ Kf7 206.Rg7+ Kf6 207.Rg6+ Kf7 208.Rg7+ Kf6 209.Rg6+ Kf7 210.Rg7+ Kf6 211.Rg6+ Kf7 212.Rg7+ Kf6 213.Rg6+ Kf7 214.Rg7+ Kf6 215.Rg6+ Kf7 216.Rg7+ Kf6 217.Rg6+ Kf7 218.Rg7+ Kf6 219.Rg6+ Kf7 220.Rg7+ Kf6 221.Rg6+ Kf7 222.Rg7+ Kf6 223.Rg6+ Kf7 224.Rg7+ Kf6 225.Rg6+ Kf7 226.Rg7+ Kf6 227.Rg6+ Kf7 228.Rg7+ Kf6 229.Rg6+ Kf7 230.Rg7+ Kf6 231.Rg6+ Kf7 232.Rg7+ Kf6 233.Rg6+ Kf7 234.Rg7+ Kf6 235.Rg6+ Kf7 236.Rg7+ Kf6 237.Rg6+ Kf7 238.Rg7+ Kf6 239.Rg6+ Kf7 240.Rg7+ Kf6 241.Rg6+ Kf7 242.Rg7+ Kf6 243.Rg6+ Kf7 244.Rg7+ Kf6 245.Rg6+ Kf7 246.Rg7+ Kf6 247.Rg6+ Kf7 248.Rg7+ Kf6 249.Rg6+ Kf7 250.Rg7+ Kf6 251.Rg6+ Kf7 252.Rg7+ Kf6 253.Rg6+ Kf7 254.Rg7+ Kf6 255.Rg6+ Kf7 256.Rg7+ Kf6 257.Rg6+ Kf7 258.Rg7+ Kf6 259.Rg6+ Kf7 260.Rg7+ Kf6 261.Rg6+ Kf7 262.Rg7+ Kf6 263.Rg6+ Kf7 264.Rg7+ Kf6 265.Rg6+ Kf7 266.Rg7+ Kf6 267.Rg6+ Kf7 268.Rg7+ Kf6 269.Rg6+ Kf7 270.Rg7+ Kf6 271.Rg6+ Kf7 272.Rg7+ Kf6 273.Rg6+ Kf7 274.Rg7+ Kf6 275.Rg6+ Kf7 276.Rg7+ Kf6 277.Rg6+ Kf7 278.Rg7+ Kf6 279.Rg6+ Kf7 280.Rg7+ Kf6 281.Rg6+ Kf7 282.Rg7+ Kf6 283.Rg6+ Kf7 284.Rg7+ Kf6 285.Rg6+ Kf7 286.Rg7+ Kf6 287.Rg6+ Kf7 288.Rg7+ Kf6 289.Rg6+ Kf7 290.Rg7+ Kf6 291.Rg6+ Kf7 292.Rg7+ Kf6 293.Rg6+ Kf7 294.Rg7+ Kf6 295.Rg6+ Kf7 296.Rg7+ Kf6 297.Rg6+ Kf7 298.Rg7+ Kf6 299.Rg6+ Kf7 300.Rg7+ Kf6 301.Rg6+ Kf7 302.Rg7+ Kf6 303.Rg6+ Kf7 304.Rg7+ Kf6 305.Rg6+ Kf7 306.Rg7+ Kf6 307.Rg6+ Kf7 308.Rg7+ Kf6 309.Rg6+ Kf7 310.Rg7+ Kf6 311.Rg6+ Kf7 312.Rg7+ Kf6 313.Rg6+ Kf7 314.Rg7+ Kf6 315.Rg6+ Kf7 316.Rg7+ Kf6 317.Rg6+ Kf7 318.Rg7+ Kf6 319.Rg6+ Kf7 320.Rg7+ Kf6 321.Rg6+ Kf7 322.Rg7+ Kf6 323.Rg6+ Kf7 324.Rg7+ Kf6 325.Rg6+ Kf7 326.Rg7+ Kf6 327.Rg6+ Kf7 328.Rg7+ Kf6 329.Rg6+ Kf7 330.Rg7+ Kf6 331.Rg6+ Kf7 332.Rg7+ Kf6 333.Rg6+ Kf7 334.Rg7+ Kf6 335.Rg6+ Kf7 336.Rg7+ Kf6 337.Rg6+ Kf7 338.Rg7+ Kf6 339.Rg6+ Kf7 340.Rg7+ Kf6 341.Rg6+ Kf7 342.Rg7+ Kf6 343.Rg6+ Kf7 344.Rg7+ Kf6 345.Rg6+ Kf7 346.Rg7+ Kf6 347.Rg6+ Kf7 348.Rg7+ Kf6 349.Rg6+ Kf7 350.Rg7+ Kf6 351.Rg6+ Kf7 352.Rg7+ Kf6 353.Rg6+ Kf7 354.Rg7+ Kf6 355.Rg6+ Kf7 356.Rg7+ Kf6 357.Rg6+ Kf7 358.Rg7+ Kf6 359.Rg6+ Kf7 360.Rg7+ Kf6 361.Rg6+ Kf7 362.Rg7+ Kf6 363.Rg6+ Kf7 364.Rg7+ Kf6 365.Rg6+ Kf7 366.Rg7+ Kf6 367.Rg6+ Kf7 368.Rg7+ Kf6 369.Rg6+ Kf7 370.Rg7+ Kf6 371.Rg6+ Kf7 372.Rg7+ Kf6 373.Rg6+ Kf7 374.Rg7+ Kf6 375.Rg6+ Kf7 376.Rg7+ Kf6 377.Rg6+ Kf7 378.Rg7+ Kf6 379.Rg6+ Kf7 380.Rg7+ Kf6 381.Rg6+ Kf7 382.Rg7+ Kf6 383.Rg6+ Kf7 384.Rg7+ Kf6 385.Rg6+ Kf7 386.Rg7+ Kf6 387.Rg6+ Kf7 388.Rg7+ Kf6 389.Rg6+ Kf7 390.Rg7+ Kf6 391.Rg6+ Kf7 392.Rg7+ Kf6 393.Rg6+

Galleries: Van Gogh and his compatriots in Glasgow, Murillo re-evaluated in Liverpool, and (below, right) Scotland's new Whistler show

# Dutch side to a giant

**F**ame on the scale of Vincent Van Gogh's unfortunately nurtured a misleading illusion that genius comes out of nothing and goes nowhere. All the big Van Gogh shows of recent years, with the exception of the Musée d'Orsay's *Van Gogh & Paris*, have shown him in isolation. While nothing can dim his blazing individuality, that individuality is put in perspective by knowledge of who his artistic friends and associates were, what influences he underwent and subsequently rejected, and what was going on around him while he steered his own unpredictable course. That is what the Burrell Collection in Glasgow has done with its enthralling show, *The Age of Van Gogh: Dutch Painting 1880-1895*.

Holland's artistic revolution, though later than France's, was no less far-reaching. Within two decades Dutch art was dragged out of mid-Victorian anecdote and pitchforked into the 20th century. Some of the names involved used to be famous far beyond Holland. Alma-Tadema is a special case, since most of his success was achieved in England, but the Brothers Maria (Mathijs especially) were much admired in the circles of *Studio* magazine. Marius Bauer was highly praised for his intricate and exotic etchings, and Jan Toorop had many English connections. Little good it did them, until recently when a revival of interest in Symbolism and a search for affordable Impressionists brought the Hague School back into the limelight.

The earliest Van Goghs in this show date from 1885 and show him involved with the dark colours and sombre naturalism then dominant in Holland. One fascinating comparison is with George Breitner, at this time his closest associate. Breitner is an interesting, neglected figure, who developed into a dashing painter of night and low-life scenes after Van Gogh's departure for Paris. While, for Van Gogh, going abroad was a major stimulus, Breitner suggests that he might well have developed spectacularly if he had stayed at home.

He would have found no lack of competition, whichever way he had gone. If it had been a matter of brilliant colour, such Dutch



Two masters reassessed: Murillo's reassembled *Virgin and Child in Glory* and Whistler's unpretentious etching, *The Kitchen*



Pointillists as Toorop (for a while) and Hendrik Breitner could have matched him. If it had been in freedom and fluency of brushwork, Isaac Israëls's scenes of café life have plenty of verve. The exquisite grey Thames landscape of Willem Arnold Witsen or the gleaming golden Thames vision of Toorop show that Van Gogh was not the only one who sought and found new inspiration abroad. But they took their new perceptions back home with them. There are, in addition, many aspects of Dutch painting in these years that Van Gogh never touched on: the flat, monumental handling of Jan Voerman's 'Cattle beside the IJssel near Hattem', for instance, or the perverse and sinuous symbolism of Joachim Thorn Prikker's weird religious works.

Yet Van Gogh towers above all. Two qualities come through in everything he does: an almost obsessive intensity of vision, and an unswerving consistency of development. Toorop might be a major artist, but he falls short because there seems to be no sense of necessity behind his constant stylistic changes. Breitner and Israëls almost match Van Gogh's intensity at moments, but neither seems so maniacally committed. But there is no reason to ignore Van Gogh's contemporaries, especially when they can give so much pleasure.

**T**hings are happening in Liverpool. The Walker Art Gallery has always been known for its Victorian splendours, both of building and of contents. For a long time there was a strong element of mockery about this: all those awful problem pictures and mythological set-pieces, would anyone ever take them seriously again? The answer recently has been a rousing affirmative. Nobody now disputes a major Leighton's or Rossetti's right to the (sometimes considerable) amount of wall-space it occupies. But possibly the balance has shifted too far; the latest developments at the gallery seem designed, at least partly, to set the record straight.

Along with its 19th-century collection, the Walker has a very respectable, if haphazard, assemblage of earlier art. Now the man in charge, Julian Treuherz, has decided to rearrange the Medieval and Renaissance Galleries much more as they would have been when first built. This entails covering the walls with silk damask, and hanging the pictures more thickly than has been fashionable. He has also set the scene for the paintings by putting some of Merseyside's holdings of decorative art from the same periods together with the paintings.

The rehang has brought some unexpected bonuses. The Walker has long had the two side-panels of the so-called Adachi Altarpiece, which was owned by a Manchester dealer in the mid-19th century. He sold the wings to the Walker, and the centrepiece to the National Gallery in London. Now the National Gallery has lent its section, so that the whole thing can be seen reassembled for the first time in 150 years.

Another once dismembered and now reassembled painting is the centrepiece of the new exhibition at the Walker, Murillo in Focus.

The Walker's own important Murillo, 'The Virgin and Child in Glory', painted for the Archbishop of Seville in 1673, was cut up in the 18th century and pieced together again only after the

Peninsular Wars. For the show this painting is brought together with a small oil sketch that was almost certainly the 'sample' Murillo offered in order to secure the commission, and with other works from the same period of his career. The invitation is clearly to re-evaluate Murillo. His popularity, unequalled in the early 19th century, has long been diminished in competition with his Spanish peers, leaving him under a cloud as a sugary sentimentalist.

That reputation hardly seems fair when the paintings are viewed. But as the show's curator, Xanthe Brooke, points out, Murillo's currency was debased by innumerable relatively coarse reproductions, and it was through them that he was largely remembered. This show handsomely makes amends to Murillo for past misunderstandings.

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

*The Age of Van Gogh: The Burrell Collection* (Police Galleries, Park Circus) (041-549 7151) Daily 10-5, Wed to 10, Sun to 6, until February 10.

*Murillo in Focus* The Walker Art Gallery, William Brown Street, Liverpool (051-207 0001). Mon-Sat 10-5, Sun 2-5, until January 13.

to purchase one of his pictures. They pipped the Louvre, which bought the much-satirised portrait of his mother, by acquiring that of Scotland's most famous eminence grise, Thomas Carlyle. In the 1880s and 1890s the Glasgow Boys virtually became his disciples – their hazy effects unthinkable without his example – and it was through the good offices of his personal friends E.A. Walton and James Guthrie that Glasgow University conferred an honorary doctorate on the artist before his death in 1903.

Few 19th-century artists can have crossed the Channel as frequently as Whistler. As a young man he was a student in Gleyre's atelier and, in spite of his decades of residence in Chelsea, Paris remained his intellectual home: Mallarmé and Montesquieu were his friends, virtually every French artist from Courbet to Monet his

successors.

Whistler in Europe can be seen at the Hunterian Art Gallery, Hillhead Street, Glasgow (041-339 8855) until January 26.

## From the Channel to the Clyde

**J**ames Abbott McNeill Whistler once wrote: "I will let things of mine go to Scotland or Ireland or America – I want no pictures or drawings in England." Ultimately, the priority specified by the Franco-American dandy, once accused by Ruskin of "flinging a pot of paint in the public's face", was honoured: in 1935 the late artist's sister-in-law donated the enormous quantity of work left in his studio to Glasgow University. Augmented by subsequent bequests, the university's Hunterian Art Gallery now boasts a Whistler collection rivalled only by that of the Freer Gallery in Washington.

Whistler's soft spot for Scotland, and for Glasgow in particular, is understandable. Although he only visited Edinburgh and the Empire's second city once as a young man, Glasgow Corporation was the first public body anywhere

to purchase one of his pictures.

They pipped the Louvre, which

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Whistler in Europe can be seen at the Hunterian Art Gallery, Hillhead Street, Glasgow (041-339 8855) until January 26.

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**BBC 1**

- 8.00 *Cheerios*  
8.30 BBC Breakfast News with Laurie Meyer and Jim Dando  
8.50 *Daytime UK* introduced by Alan Titchmarsh and Judi Spiers in *Birmingham* and Adam Mills in *Manchester*  
9.00 News, regional news and weather  
9.05 *Brasserie*, Quiz game show hosted by Andy Craig 9.25 *Dish of the Day*, Culinary tips from Rosemary Moon 9.30 *People Today*, The lives of people across the UK are viewed by Adam Mills and Debby Jones  
10.00 News, regional news and weather  
10.05 *Children's BBC*, introduced by Simon Parkin, begins with *Playdays*  
10.25 *Pingu*, Adventures of a clumsy penguin 10.35 *People Today*  
11.00 News, regional news and weather  
11.05 *Kirky*, Topical discussion show presented by Robert Kirby-Sik  
11.45 *Before Noon*, Alan Titchmarsh and Judi Spiers announce the winner of *Braveheart*  
12.00 News, regional news and weather  
12.05 *After Noon*, *Travel Show Extra*. Penny Junor discusses Lido di Jesolo, Italy, and Malvern 12.20 *Scene Today*, The daily entertainment programme from Pebble Mill 12.55  
Regional news and weather  
1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Philip Heyton, Weather 1.30 *Neighbours*. (Ceefax)  
1.50 *Film: David (1978)*, An illuminating biopic of the Australian swimming legend Dawn Fraser (Bronwyn Mackay-Payne), chronicling both her triumphant career and her combative and controversial private life. Directed by Ken Hannan



Rab of the green: Sir Kingsley Amis (10.20pm)

- 3.40 *Chilly Willy Double Bill*, Cartoons 3.50 *Bump 3.55*, Informative show for inquisitive younger 4.10 *The Jetsons*, Fun with the cartoon family of the future 4.35 *Record Breakers* with Roy Castle and Cheryl Baker 5.00 *Newground* 5.10 *Sykes Grove*, Episode ten of the drama set in and around a Tyne-side youth club. (Ceefax)  
5.35 *Neighbours* (r), Northern Ireland: *Sportswear* 5.40 *Inside Ulster*  
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Moira Stuart, Weather 6.30 *Regional News Magazines*, Northern Ireland: *Neighbours*  
7.00 *Wogan in Hollywood*, The guests are actress Valerie Harper, famous for her roles in *Rhoda* and *Valerie*, and Charles Fleischer, the voice behind Roger Rabbit.  
7.30 *Only Fools and Horses: The Yellow Peril*, A genuine comedy classic starring David Jason as failed south London entrepreneur Del Boy, having become involved in another dodgy job (r). (Ceefax)  
8.00 *Bruce Forsyth's Generation Game*, Family game show hosted by the great survivor, assisted by the winsome Rosemarie Ford  
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis, Regional news and weather  
9.30 *Casualty: Remembrance*, Uncompromising hospital drama. (Ceefax)  
10.20 *Omnibus: The Return of the Green Man*. (c) CHOICE: The television version of Sir Kingsley Amis's novel is the cue for a wider examination of the myth of the Green Man with contributions from film director John Boorman, composer Sir Harrison Birtwistle and Sir Kingsley himself. The essence of a myth is that it defies precise definition and

can therefore be reinterpreted by succeeding generations without fear of misrepresentation... Julian

Hemmings's film is an anthology of such interpretations from church carvings, to the medieval poem "Sir Gawain and the Green Knight" and the Staine comic strip. People have always used the Green Man for their own purposes. In the present ecological climate, the idea of regeneration and the power of nature has led environmentalists to make the connection between the Green Man and green politics, while the darker side of the myth continues to inspire images less positive and more unsettling.

11.10 *Film: Phantom of the Rue Morgue* (1954) starring Karl Malden, Patricia Medina and Steve Forrest, Esotic horror movie set in Paris at the turn of the century. An insane murderer is savagely killing attractive girls. The crimes have no apparent motive and the police are baffled. Enjoyable romp adapted from an Edgar Allan Poe novel and first made in 1932 with Bela Lugosi under the title *Murders in the Rue Morgue*. Directed by Roy Del Ruth

12.30am *Weather*

**BBC 2**

- 8.00 News  
8.15 Westminster, A look at yesterday's parliamentary proceedings  
9.00 Daytime on Two  
2.00 News and weather followed by Words and Pictures (r)  
2.15 Sport on Friday introduced by Helen Rollason. Live coverage of the 2.40, 3.10 and 3.40 races from Ascot; and 3.45, 4.15 and 4.45 from the three national winter meetings and the 5.15 from Coventry includes at news and weather 3.00 and 3.50  
4.00 *Call My Bluff*, Referee Robert Robinson checks a war of wit and words between Arthur Marfield, Frank Muir, Sheila Steafel, Stephen Fry, Elaine Peige and Lord Heseltine (r)  
4.30 Behind the Headlines, Sandi Toksvig unveils the National Portrait Gallery's £20,000 secret weapon — video portrait; Mark Lawson reviews Ronald Reagan's autobiography, *An American Life*; and American dancer Michael Wyse explains why he defected to the Moscow City Ballet  
5.00 Food and Drink presented by Chris Kelly, Michael Barry and Jill Goldin (r)  
5.30 *Top Gear*, Includes Chris Gorley road testing the VW Caravelle and the Toyota Previa (r)  
6.00 *Film: Ivanhoe (1952)*, Sumptuous medieval swashbuckler starring Robert Taylor, Elizabeth Taylor and Joan Fontaine, extravagantly directed by Richard Thorpe. Wales: Business Matters 6.25 *Espana Viva 6.50* A Vista La France 7.15 *Wales in Westminster*  
7.45 What the Papers Say, The Guardian's Michael White casts a critical eye over this week's press and celebrates the Sun's coming-of-age

- 8.00 *Public Eye: Local Government — Where Costs Come First*, John Andrew reports on how some local authorities will try to keep next year's poll tax low  
8.30 *The Travel Show Guide*, Penny Junor introduces a warts-and-all report on the comparatively inaccessible and unspoilt northern coast of Spain. (Ceefax)



Moose bag: a dive into murky waters (8.00pm)

- 9.00 *Indelible Evidence: Voice of Extortion*. (c) CHOICE: The last in the series of reconstructed forensic triumphs comes from Australia and concerns a case of bombing and extortion centred on the toy department of the Sydney Woolworths on Christmas Eve. The store is hastily evacuated after a telephone warning and an explosion causes much damage but no casualties. It is followed by a demand for one million dollars. With the police and other experts playing themselves, and the villains played by actors, the trail leads to the waterfront where a diver is arrested as he tries to grab the ransom money. But he denies involvement in the crime. Although the inevitability of the outcome robs the narrative of some of its tension, this

is one of the series' more polished offerings, with the Australian cops making rather better bleepers than their British counterparts. Ludovic Kennedy's topping and tailing is so brief that it is almost redundant. (Ceefax)  
9.30 *Monty Python's Flying Circus*, Moronacy from the manic team (r). (Ceefax)  
10.00 *Have I Got News for You?*, Angus Deayton chairs the comedy quiz show and is joined by news addicts Ian Hislop, Paul Martin, Tony Banks, MP, and Germaine Greer  
10.30 *Nine o'clock 7.15 Weather*  
11.20 *New West*, Foot-tapping western songs from four bands of country rock: the Desert Rose Band and the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band  
11.50 *Film: Je vous aime (1980)*. (c) CHOICE: Despite its strong cast, this ten-year-old film by the French director Claude Berri seems to have had little or no cinema exposure in Britain, which would surely not have happened had it come after and not before Berri's best-known offerings, *Jean de Florette* and *Maman des Sources*. Catherine Deneuve plays Alice, a beauty in her mid-thirties who has had many love affairs but failed to achieve a settled relationship. Bringing her former lovers and their children together for an unorthodox Christmas party, she recalls her various relationships against the background of her career from journalist to song-writer. The time shifts can be confusing but there are satisfying performances from Deneuve and two other stalwarts of recent French cinema, Jean-Louis Trintignant and Gérard Depardieu. Look out, too, for an appearance by Serge Gainsbourg, who also wrote the songs. Ends at 1.30am

Cr 2.00 *Attempt on the Poet*, In 1989 an international expedition prepared for a trek to the Poet by covering 1,300 miles of Greenland. This was not merely a rehearsal, because it was the first complete north-to-south crossing of Greenland and it helped to accumulate the team's self-sufficiency and solitude.

2.30 *Film: Seventh Heaven (1937, b/w)*, Heart-warming love-in-a-garret story about a Paris sewer worker whose love for a prostitute never wanes. Although soggy at times, this remake of the 1927 classic is guaranteed to touch the stoniest cynic. Starring James Stewart and Simone Simon. Directed by Henry King

4.25 *Henry Moore*, Works by the celebrated sculptor animated by Sheila Gruber

4.30 *Fifteen-to-One*, William G. Stewart with another round of the fast-moving quiz

5.00 *Not on Sunday*, Includes a look at the implications of the enthronement of Emperor Akihito as a high priest of the Shinto religion

5.30 *American Football: Red 42*, Mick Luckhurst and Gary Imach take time out to present news, interviews and action from the NFL

6.00 *High Days*, Comedy about high school life in small-town Milwaukee in the Fifties starring Ron Howard and Howard Winkler

6.30 *Tonight with Jonathan Ross*, The guests are Derek Hatton, American comedian Margaret Smith, and, with a song, Eletric 101

7.00 *Channel 4 News* with Nicholas Owen and Zainab Badawi, Weather

**ITV LONDON**

- 6.00 *ITV News* begins with news followed by *Good Morning Britain* presented by Maye Everard, from 7.00, by Mike Morris and Lorraine Kelly. With news on the hour and bulletins on the half-hour, in the *Doc Spot* at 8.20 and 8.35 Dr Hilary Jones discusses pre-conception. After nine features Russell Grant has his star signs for the week ahead.
- 9.25 *Keynotes*, Music game show hosted by Alister Dowd 9.55 *Thames News and Weather*
- 10.00 *The Time . . . The Place . . .*, Mike Scott chairs a discussion on cults operating in the UK
- 10.40 *This Morning*, Magazine series on family matters presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Today's edition includes fashion news, advice on hair care, the latest techniques in the fight against infertility and an item on women's Plus national and international news at 10.55 followed by national weather.

12.05 *Rainbow*, Educational entertainment for pre-school children 12.25 *Home and Away*, Australian soap about a couple and their foster children 12.55 *Thames News and Weather*

1.00 *News at One* with Nicholas Owen, Weather

1.20 *A Problem Aired*, A repeat of last night's emotional counselling programme. With therapist Dr John Cobb 1.50 *A Country Practice*, Australian medical drama serial

2.20 *Thames Action*, London consumer issues introduced by Viv Taylor Gee and Jacqui King 2.50 *Talkabout*, Quiz for fast-thinking couples, hosted by Andrew O'Connor

- 3.15 News headlines 3.20 *Thames News Headlines* 3.25 *The Young Doctors*, Drama serial set in a large Australian city hospital

3.55 *Beddington Bear*, Cartoon series based on the books by Michael Bond about a bear from darkest Peru 4.25 *How 2*, The programme that answers the question "How?", with Fred Dibnah, Carol Vorderman and Garth Jones 4.45 *Kingatrone*, Electronic dungeoneering game featuring friends from Devon

5.10 *Horror and Away* (r)

5.40 *News with Sue Carpenter*, Weather

5.55 *Crime Monthly Preview*, Paul Rosa looks at the cases to be shown later tonight

6.00 *Six O'Clock Live*, Presented by Frank Bough, includes guests Lynn, Vanessa and Jennifer屠bridge, and two advertising agencies with 30-second commercials on behalf of the rival Toy testing contestants

7.00 *Family Fortunes*, Family quiz show hosted by Les Dennis, The contestants this week come from Essex and Devon

7.30 *Coronation Street*, Soap set in Manchester's most famous thoroughfare. (Ceefax)

8.00 *Murder She Wrote: Test of Will*, Another in the seemingly endless series of detective mysteries starring Angela Lansbury as crime writer Jessica Fletcher, whose friends and relatives get murdered or framed for murder on an alarmingly regular basis. Tonight Jessica spends a weekend at the isolated island retreat of a multi-millionaire who believes his life is in danger. With Gene Barry

9.00 *Coasting: Poetic Justice*, Lively comedy drama starring Peter Howitt and James Purefoy as two London brothers on the run from crooks in

London who seek a safe haven in Blackpool. Now they find themselves pursued by a notorious local villain posing as a poet

10.00 *News at Ten* with Abigail Burnet and Trevor McDonald, Weather 10.35 *LWT News and Weather*

10.40 *Crime Monthly* includes details of the murder in London of Judith Silver who was found battered to death near her Hampstead home

11.40 *Jake and the Fatman: Rhapsody in Blue*, American detective drama starring William Conrad as a large FBI agent. An ambitious businessman and his wife see murder as a way to success. With Joe Penny as his sidekick Jake Styles

12.35am *The World of Golf*, From tee to green with Dickie Davies, and advice from David Lebster. Followed by *News Headlines*

1.05 *The James Whale Radio Show*, Live chaos with the controversial phone-in host. Followed by *News Headlines*

2.05 *CinemAttractions*, The latest movie releases in the US

2.35 *The Story of Rock 'n' Roll*, Among those appearing are Brenda Lee, Connie Francis and Whitney Houston

3.05 *The Fugitive*, First of a two-part adventure — *The Judgment*. The mystery surrounding the death of Kimble's wife is about to be unravelled as the series reaches its conclusion. Starring David Janssen, Barry Morse and Bill Ranch (r)

4.00 *The Monkees*, More music and mayhem with the playful pop group (r)

4.30 *The Partridge Family*, Good clean family fun with the all-singing Partridges. This week a biker rides into Laure's life. Starring David Cassidy and Susan Dey (r)

5.00 *ITN Morning News* with Anne Leucaris. Ends at 6.00

pride, Kew Gardens. A group of experts from Kew were joined by a camera crew on a recent expedition to the Himalayas. Viewers are treated to a insight into how rare plants were studied and collected around the Nepalese border then nurtured back in London, and how the gardens conserve rare species by keeping a seed bank at Wakehurst Place in Sussex for protected species (Teletext)

10.00 *The Golden Girls*, Have Yourself a Very Little Christmas, Sharp witcrisms from the four middle-aged women who live together in Miami. A hostwaive renders Christmas shopping unbearable for the four friends, so they decide to buy just one person a present each. The irony is that nobody wants it and ends up a present from Rose because of her dubious taste. (Teletext)

10.30 This is David Harper: Partners in Crime. Following in the footsteps of Stephen Fry's David Lander, Tony Slattery engages in another spoof on foot-in-the-door journalism. Tonight's story involves a delicate matter with the police and an armed robber turned supergrass

11.00 *The Word*, With Holly Johnson, Belinda Carlisle, Sean Young and Steve Guttenberg

12.00 *Dancedaze*, Braxton Academy is the venue for the hippest show on the dance and clubbing scene

1.00pm *Film: The Hideous Sun Demon* (1956, b/w), Continuing the *Killer Bs* season, this sparky picture directed by and starring Robert Clarke trails the unfortunate fate of a scientist who, after a large dose of radiation, has the tendency to become a scaly, lizard-like monster in daylight. With Patricia Manning, Nan Peterson and Patrick Whyte. Ends at 2.25

Bridges and Kim Basinger. Ends at 3.45

**BSB GALAXY**

7.00am *Teenagers Mutual Hero Turtles* 7.30 *Me & 8.30 Playabout* 8.45 *Mrs Pepperpot* 8.00 *Beowulf* 8.30 *Tom and Jerry* 8.45 *Heidi* 9.00 *Focus of Life* 10.30 *One Face* 11.00 *Focus of Life* 11.30 *31 West* 12.00 *Jupiter Moon* 12.30pm *The Bold and the Beautiful* 1.00 *Days of Our Lives* 1.30 *Barnaby Jones* 2.00 *One Face* 2.30 *Heidi* 3.00 *Tom and Jerry* 3.30 *Focus of Life* 4.00 *Heidi* 4.30 *Days of Our Lives* 5.00 *One Face* 5.30 *Heidi* 6.00 *One Face* 6.30 *Heidi* 7.00 *Days of Our Lives* 7.30 *Focus of Life* 8.00 *Heidi* 8.30 *Days of Our Lives* 9.00 *One Face* 9.30 *Heidi* 10.00 *Days of Our Lives* 10.30 *Focus of Life* 11.00 *Heidi* 11.30 *Days of Our Lives* 12.00 *One Face* 12.30 *Heidi* 1.00 *Days of Our Lives* 2.00 *One Face* 2.30 *Heidi* 3.00 *Days of Our Lives* 3.30 *One Face* 4.00 *Heidi* 4.30 *Days of Our Lives* 5.00 *One Face* 5.30 *Heidi* 6.00 *Days of Our Lives* 6.30 *One Face* 7.00 *Heidi* 7.30 *Days of Our Lives* 8.00 *One Face* 8.30 *Heidi* 9.00 *Days of Our Lives* 9.30 *One Face* 10.00 *Heidi* 10.30 *Days of Our Lives* 11.00 *One Face* 11.30 *Heidi* 12.00 *Days of Our Lives* 1.00 *One Face* 2.00 *Heidi* 2.30 *Days of Our Lives* 3.00 *One Face* 3.30 *Heidi* 4.00 *Days of Our Lives* 4.30 *One Face* 5.00 *Heidi* 5.30 *Days of Our Lives* 6.00 *One Face* 6.30 *Heidi* 7.00 *Days of Our Lives* 7.30 *One Face* 8.00 *Heidi* 8.30 *Days of Our Lives* 9.00 *One Face* 9.30 *Heidi* 10.00 *Days of Our Lives* 10.30 *One Face* 11.00 *Heidi* 11.30 *Days of Our Lives* 12.00 <i

## Cater Allen payout is raised 15%

CATER Allen is lifting its interim dividend by 15 per cent to 6p after a "significantly larger" profit in the six months to end-October.

The discount house benefited from the one-point cut in interest rates last month, while its money broking and Jersey operations did well. Profits were boosted from the interest earned on the £14 million Cater raised in a rights issue last summer. Cater, like other discount houses, is exempted from reporting detailed interim figures.

Analysts now expect Cater to easily beat the net profit of £7.4 million it made last year.

### UniChem début

About 4,400 retail chemists made "paper fortunes" as UniChem shares touched 127p on their first day of trading on the London stock market. UniChem's pharmaceutical customers saw an immediate profit of £1,200 per cent.

### Locker higher

Thomas Locker (Holdings) lifted pre-tax profits from £944,000 to £1.05 million in the half-year to end-September. Earnings per share rose 12.7p to 16.4p. The interim dividend is maintained at 0.5p.

### Sotheby's loss

Sotheby's, the auction house, reporting on a traditionally quiet third quarter, shows a pre-tax loss of £5.4 million — down from an £8.3 million loss last year — for the three months ended September.

### Concentric rise

Concentric lifted pre-tax profits by 13 per cent to £9.2 million in the year to end-September. Earnings per share rose from 27.23p to 28.40p. The final dividend is 7.65p (6.55p), making 11p (9.35p).

### Bennett warning

Shares in Bennett & Fountain Group fell 5p to 10p after the company gave warning that the results for the year to end-June would be "materially below expectations".

### Amax purchase

Amax, the American energy and resources group, is to buy Ladd Petroleum from General Electric of America for \$515 million.

### Volvo falls 63%

Volvo, the Swedish vehicle maker, reports a 63 per cent slump in profits to 2.26 billion kronor (£208 million) in the first nine months of this year.

## Royal suffers record £91m loss as house claims soar

By NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

ARSON attacks and house subsidence claims pushed Royal Insurance into a record-breaking loss of £91 million in the nine months to end-September, compared with a £125 million pre-tax profit last year, while the group's solvency has slumped to a 16-year low.

Ian Rushton, the chief executive, gave warning that the losses would mean job cuts and premium increases. "The premiums we receive must give a proper expectation of attaining profit," he said. "This takes priority over market share."

The group's motor premiums were increased by 10 per cent at the start of the month, the second rise this year. Mr Rushton said house structure rates would also have to rise by a tenth, with even steeper increases due on commercial motor and property policies.

The group has cut its staff by 250 so far this year and Mr Rushton said there would be further significant job losses. Despite the losses, Royal's share price rose 17p to 390p on hopes of higher premiums. Investors were also en-

couraged by the group's statement that it was not considering a rights issue despite a 29 per cent fall in its reserves, and the lower losses in America.

Royal has been hit by 6,300 subsidence claims, caused by the dry summer, almost double last year's total. The value of the claims has risen 77 per cent, to an average £12,000 each, as houses suffered the effect of two dry winters and hot summers.

Claims are still coming in, and analysts expect subsidence losses to total £130 million in the full year.

Commercial property losses rose from £22 million to £37 million. Mr Rushton said the increase in arson claims was "obviously connected" with the downturn in the economy.

Analysts were encouraged by a fall in losses at the group's American subsidiary from £78 million to £69 million. "The company is certainly getting its act together in the US," said Steven Bird, an insurance analyst at Smith New Court.

"But it will be some while before we can say it is out of the woods." There is no third quarter dividend.



Premises warning: Ian Rushton yesterday

## Drexel accused of bribery and fraud

From JOHN DURIE IN NEW YORK

AMERICAN savings and loan regulators have accused Drexel Burnham Lambert Group, the failed investment bank, of "bribery, coercion, extortion and fraud" in a \$6.8 billion claim against the group to recover money the regulators say was lost by about 50 failed savings banks.

The claim was made to the federal bankruptcy court, whose deadline for all claims against the firm has now expired. Drexel filed for bankruptcy earlier this year.

The regulators said they intended to file claims personally against Michael Milken, the former Drexel junk bond chief.

## LIT agrees refinance package

LIT Holdings, the troubled financial services group, has agreed a £26.2 million refinancing with its bankers.

The package will save the group £2 million in interest costs and allow it to start paying dividends again.

The refinancing is a victory

by Christopher Castleman, the chairman, to restore the company's balance sheet. LIT

has struggled for more than a year to reduce its debt from £71 million to £25 million, helped by disposals.

The rest of the debt was until now repayable in June next year. Mr Castleman said this was "unstable and extremely costly" and had frightened business away from LITAM, the group's futures clearing house in the America.

## RBS may call off \$149m bank buy

By OUR BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE ROYAL Bank of Scotland may withdraw its £149 million bid for BankWorcester in the United States unless the American bank can reduce its bad debt portfolio by early next year.

The Royal Bank bid for BankWorcester in February. The terms allowed it to pull out if BankWorcester's non-performing assets were still above \$50 million by the time the Royal Bank takeover received regulatory approval.

The regulators' decision is due by January 15.

Since then, however, BankWorcester's shares have slid dramatically on Nasdaq, America's screen-based stock market, to as low as 59p a share, it is believed the Royal

Bank still wants to buy

BankWorcester to merge it with Citizens, its existing bank in Rhode Island.

## News Corp profits dip 3% in first quarter

By OUR CITY STAFF

PROFITS of The News Corporation, the international media group that owns *The Times*, fell 3 per cent to Aus\$65.1 million (£26 million) before tax in the first three months to end-September on a 41 per cent increase in turnover to Aus\$2.78 billion. Earnings, before abnormal items, fell 31 per cent to Aus\$25.9 million, but there were abnormal profits of Aus\$29 million.

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Claims are still coming in, and analysts expect subsidence losses to total £130 million in the full year.

New Corp says the merger of Sky Television and BSF will substantially reduce future costs of building the investment and ensure a return to profit in Britain for the rest of the year.

## HMC buys mortgage book from Chase

THE Household Mortgage Corporation has bought the £200 million mortgage book of Chase Manhattan Bank. The centralised lender paid a premium of about 1 per cent for the business and is expected to announce further acquisitions soon. The 3,700,000 borrowers should benefit from the transfer of loans as the 16.25 per cent mortgage rate will be reduced by at least 1 per cent.

An HMC spokesman said that Chase's mortgage arrears were "not bad" and the mortgage book fitted in with HMC's existing business. Chase has also put its Visa credit card business up for sale but has not attracted a buyer. The credit card market has suffered from overcapacity in the past year and Chase, which pays interest on credit balances and charges a lower rate of interest than most of the big providers, is likely to be feeling the squeeze more than its rivals.

## Profits surge at Hartstone

HARTSTONE Group the handbag, leather goods and hosiery group that has been transformed by a new management team, saw pre-tax profits from Aus\$91 million from Australia and the Pacific Basin and a decline from profit of Aus\$63 million to losses of Aus\$21 million in Britain.

The downturn in Britain reflects the inclusion of Sky Television for three months, compared with one month a year ago. The results also include the Harper Collins book publishing interests, which became wholly owned from June and account for most of the increase in net interest payments from Aus\$218 million to Aus\$283 million.

Gleeson is paying a 7.94p final dividend, making a total of 9.36p (10.77p). Turnover was ahead from £1.34 million to £1.66 million but was not matched by a corresponding rise in trading profit because of the need for further provisions against land values. The group had the benefit of a £108,000 in rental income to £7.78 million and a £239,000 increase in interest received to £875,000.

## Solid year at Gleeson

MJ GLEESON Group, the housebuilder and contractor, saw pre-tax profits little changed at £11.67 million against £11.63 million, in the year to end-June despite the difficult times in the construction industry.

Gleeson is paying a 7.94p final dividend, making a total of 9.36p (10.77p). Turnover was ahead from £1.34 million to £1.66 million but was not matched by a corresponding rise in trading profit because of the need for further provisions against land values. The group had the benefit of a £108,000 in rental income to £7.78 million and a £239,000 increase in interest received to £875,000.

## Rexmore up to £524,000

REXMORE, the Liverpool supplier of upholstery, textiles and timber, lifted pre-tax profits from £503,000 to £524,000 in the six months to September 29. Disposals led to a 14 per cent decline in turnover to £2.07 million, although turnover for the retained businesses was ahead by 12 per cent. The interim dividend is maintained at 0.7p. The shares were unchanged at 25p.

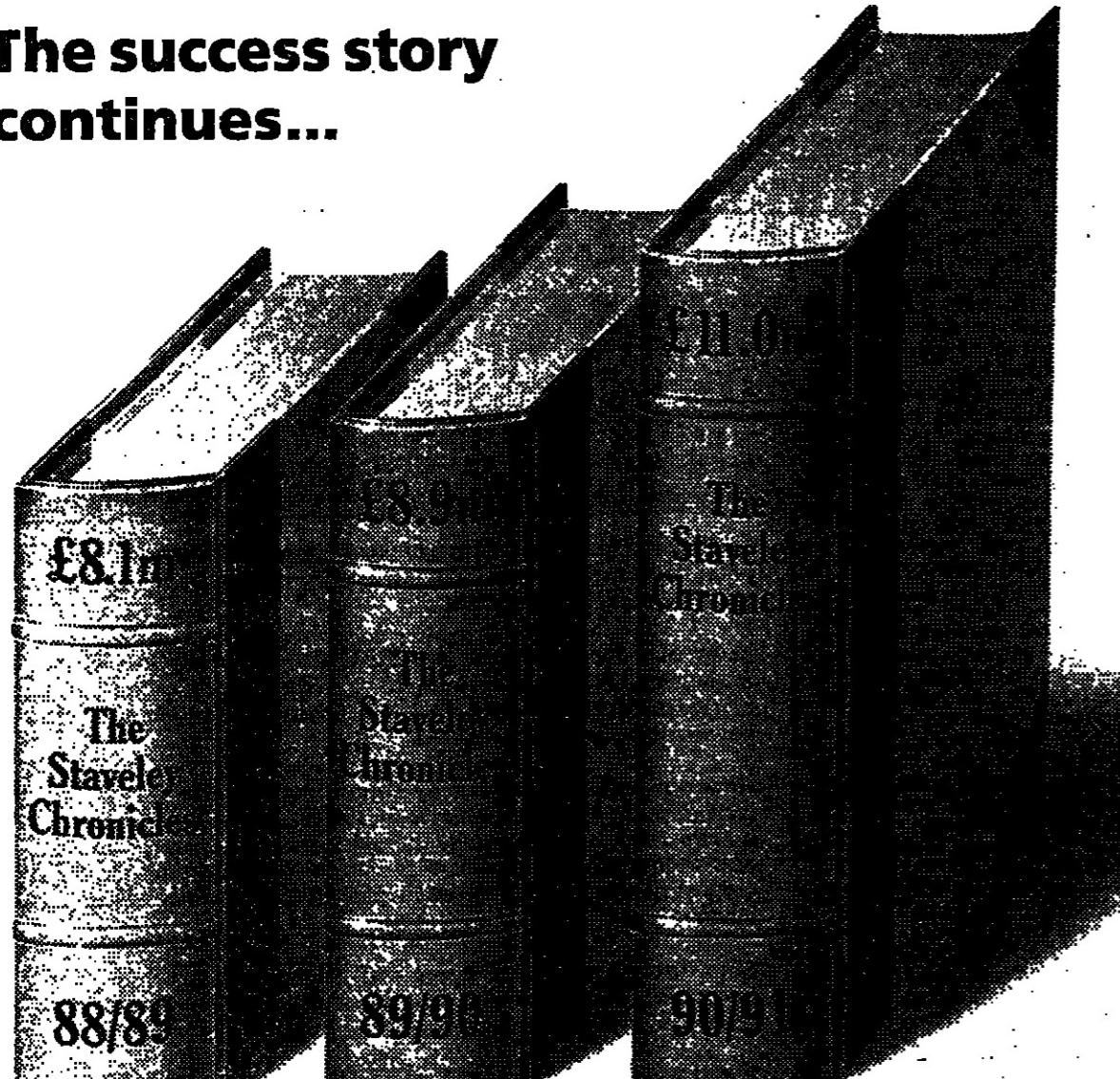
## McLeod Russel slips

A SHARP increase in net interest received, from £957,000 to £1.12 million, coupled with £2.1 million proceeds from the sale of a warehouse, helped limit the slide in pre-tax profits at McLeod Russel Holdings, the surface coatings, textiles and property group. Profits in the year ended September were £7.75 million, compared with £8.74 million.

The group suffered from lower vehicle registrations and raw material price increases, but operations achieved profits of £5.83 million compared with £6.13 million. The final dividend rises from 2.75p to 3.05p, making 5.8p (5.25p). The shares were unchanged at 78p.

## INTERIM RESULTS

### The success story continues...



### ■ RECORD PROFIT BEFORE TAX AT £11.0m UP 24%

### ■ EARNINGS PER SHARE 8.2p UP 8%

### ■ INTERIM DIVIDEND 2.3p UP 10%

## STAVELEY INDUSTRIES plc

MINERALS • MECHANICAL & ELECTRICAL SERVICES • MANUFACTURING • MEASUREMENT

Staveley Industries plc, Staveley House, 11 Dingwall Road, Croydon CR9 3DB. Tel: 081-688 4404

## Royal Insurance

### NINE MONTHS RESULTS 1990

- Pre-tax loss £91m (1989: £125m profit).
- Result remains dominated by worldwide weather losses of £185m and UK subsidence losses of £76m.
- In North America there was a reduced pre-tax loss in the USA and the Canadian operation produced a satisfactory profit.
- Our emphasis remains on the restoration of profitable operations through the basic insurance practice of ensuring adequate prices for the risks underwritten.
- As a consequence of the fallback in most of the world's major stockmarkets Capital and Reserves total £1,797m. The solvency margin of 35% does not include either the embedded value of the existing life business of some £580m or the goodwill of acquired businesses such as Maccabees Life Insurance Company, Lloyd Italico and the estate agency operations.

### Royal Insurance

A full statement for the nine months results for 1990 (of which the above is an extract) will be mailed to all shareholders, and is also available from Group Corporate Relations, Royal Insurance Holdings plc, 1 Cornhill, London EC3V 3QR. Please send me a copy of Royal Insurance's nine months statement.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

POSTCODE: \_\_\_\_\_

# BUSINESS

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 16 1990

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## Canada approves B Gas purchase

BRITISH Gas has won approval from Canadian regulatory authorities for its proposed £565 million purchase of the Consumers' Gas Company of Toronto (Ross Tieben writes).

The deal, agreed with GW Utilities, Consumers' 82 per cent stakeholder, provides BG's first major expansion in the business of distributing gas to homes, shops, factories and offices outside Britain.

Global springboard, page 27

## Blenheim Group to buy Gramac

Blenheim Group, the international exhibitions concern, is paying Fr110.6 million for Gramac, organiser of a twice-yearly children's fashion exhibition in Paris.

Blenheim has announced a 122 per cent increase in taxable profits to £21.3 million for the year to end-August, and earnings up 34 per cent to 58.3p a share. A final dividend of 14p gives a total of 20p.

Temps, page 27

## Peck meeting

POLLY Peck International's newly-formed creditors' committee will hold its first meeting with administrators today while Asil Nadir, chairman and largest shareholder of the fresh fruit, electronics and hotels company, flies to northern Cyprus to review the company's operations in the region.

## FKI tumbles

FKI, the electrical products group, reports a setback in pre-tax profits from £35.4 million to £26.3 million for the half year to end-September, but the figure shows a dramatic recovery since last year's second half when profits fell to £19.2 million. The interim dividend is held at 2p.

Temps, page 27

## Sparkling finish

More than 125,000 people made last-minute telephone registrations with the Electricity Share Information Office in Bristol for the incentives available to customers in this month's flotation of the 12 regional distribution companies in England and Wales. The price will be announced on Wednesday.

### THE POUND

US dollar 1.9605 (-0.0015)  
German mark 2.8947 (+0.0086)  
Exchange index 93.7 (same)

### STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1599.6 (+16.4)  
FT-SE 100 2060.0 (+14.0)  
New York Dow Jones 2550.99 (-8.66)\*  
Tokyo Nikkei Avge 23487.48 (-449.96)  
Closing Prices ... Page 31  
Major indices and major changes Page 29

### INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 14%  
3-month Interbank 13%+13%  
3-month eligible bills: 13%+13%  
US: Prime Rate 10%  
Federal Funds 7%  
3-month Treasury Bills 7.08-7.06%  
30-year bonds 102%+102%\*

### CURRENCIES

London: New York: \$1.9605  
\$2.8947: \$1.4786\*  
\$2.8947: \$1.4786\*  
\$2.8947: \$1.4786\*  
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\$2.8947: \$1.4786\*  
\$2.8947: \$1.4786\*

### GOLD

London Fixing: AM 3378.00 pm 3378.00  
close 3378.00 3379.50 (£183.50)  
New York: Comex \$378.60-379.10\*

### NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Dec) ... 532.05 bbl (\$31.45)  
\* Denotes latest trading price

### TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Sale
Australia \$	2.15	2.45
Austria	2.10	2.00
Bahrain D	2.50	2.50
Canada \$	1.75	1.02
Denmark Kr	7.34	6.88
Finland F	10.16	9.55
France F	3.02	2.85
Germany Dm	31.00	29.00
Greece Dr	15.77	14.97
Hong Kong \$	1.13	1.05
Iceland	2.20	2.10
Italy Lira	22.00	21.00
Japan Yen	3.15	3.15
Netherlands Old	11.83	11.18
New Zealand \$	2.65	2.65
Portugal Esc	4.50	4.50
South Africa Rand	5.00	4.70
Spain Pta	18.00	17.00
Sweden Kr	11.21	10.67
Switzerland Fr	2.60	2.60
Turkey Lira	5.00	4.70
USA \$	2.94	2.94
Yugoslavia Dinar	27.00	20.00

Rates for foreign currency bank only as at 16 November 1990. \* Denotes latest trading price. Rates apply to travellers' cheques. Retail Price Index: 129.3 (September)

## Sir Ralph Halpern to be paid £2 million in compensation

## Burton scraps executive share option scheme

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

THE Burton Group's controversial executive share option scheme investigated by Sir Ralph Halpern, is to be scrapped.

The abolition of the scheme, which made Sir Ralph Britain's highest paid company chief in 1987, coincides with his departure as chairman and chief executive of Burton and the payment of a £2 million compensation package, £1.4 million of which comes from the scheme.

Sir John Hoeklyn, who takes over as chairman, said Sir Ralph's departure was by mutual consent. Sir Ralph will receive £1.4 million in deferred bonuses, paid over three years, and £600,000 compensation for loss of office. His pension is £456,000 a year for life. Laurence Cooklin, joint managing director, takes over as chief executive. His salary last year was £574,000.

Sir John said the incentive scheme could lead to "anomalous situations". It was not an appropriate scheme for a recession, although it had served a useful purpose when it had been introduced, he said. The group has not decided how it will be replaced.

Sir Ralph's package, which is additional to his £817,000 salary, is thought to be the most generous in British corporate history, but Sir John said it was not excessive given Sir Ralph's 30 years' service with the company and the amount he had achieved.

There was an £83.9 million extraordinary charge made up of a £169 million writedown

Comment, page 27

## Jobless rate at 6% after biggest jump since 1986

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE biggest monthly rise in unemployment for four-and-a-half years pushed the jobless rate back up to 6 per cent last month.

Despite the sharper-than-expected increase, the latest labour market figures showed earnings still moving ahead, with underlying average earnings growing at an annual 10.25 per cent in September, up from 10 per cent in August.

More disturbing was the pick-up in unit-labour cost growth in September from an annual 10 per cent to 10.6 per cent, the highest since May 1981. The latest three months showed annual unit-wage

wage costs as "absolutely horrendous", showing that the government would have to wait a long time for rising unemployment to have the desired impact on earnings. There was even scope for a "temporary" interest rate rise, he said.

The employment department said seasonally adjusted unemployment rose 32,200 in October to 1,702,700, boosting the unemployment rate to a provisional 6 per cent from 5.9 per cent in September.

Market forces centred on a rise of 26,000. On an unadjusted basis, unemployment fell by 3,322. The monthly trend rise in adjusted unemployment is now put at 20,000 to 25,000.

A sign of "hidden unemployment" was the increase in the number of people on short-time working. This jumped 400,000 to a weekly 920,000 in September, the highest level since July 1983.

Capital expenditure in manufacturing fell a provisional 3 per cent in the third quarter compared with the second quarter and almost 7 per cent in the third quarter of 1989.

Bank of England notes in circulation figures showed an annual 3.3 per cent rise, pointing to narrow money supply growth slowing this month to about 3.25 per cent and below 3 per cent in December.

Comment, page 27

## Bank urges business to work inside ERM limits

By ANATOLE KALETSKY, ECONOMICS EDITOR

THE Bank of England renewed its pledge to keep sterling in its exchange-rate mechanism limits.

It told industrialists that they would face painful consequences if they did not adjust wage-setting to recognise the currency constraint. The Bank added that the slowdown in the economy would be steeper and more prolonged than it had previously expected, but agreed with the Treasury's forecast that the economy would start recovering by the

middle of next year. The Bank's views in the November Quarterly Bulletin were broadly in line with other comments made by the Chancellor and Treasury officials. They were less optimistic than the government about the idea that labour markets would respond quickly to ERM membership.

The Bank noted that in the past wages have responded more to trends in unemployment than to its absolute level.

Bank of England notes in circulation figures showed an annual 3.3 per cent rise, pointing to narrow money supply growth slowing this month to about 3.25 per cent and below 3 per cent in December.

Comment, page 27

## Brent's chief caught on the ropes

By MARTIN WALLER

GEORGE Walker, the former professional boxer who built the Brent Walker property and leisure empire, was in the ring with his shareholders yesterday for the first time since the company went to the ropes this summer. Mr Walker ended the day by being counted out.

The Brent Walker publicity machine, which is adept at making any number of contradictory statements before breakfast, had claimed that details of the company's refinancing arrangements with its banks could be made available to the shareholders, who were voting on the controversial £103 million convertible bond issue, before the meeting.

But Mr Walker said his bankers had insisted on the issue being passed by shareholders as a condition of the refinancing, and contrary to numerous earlier reports the refinancing was not yet complete. The Brent Walker chair-



Happier times: Sir Ralph, who stands down as Burton's chief executive and chairman

Capital makes a date to remember

By OUR CITY STAFF

THE horde of throwaway corporate diaries that start to arrive on desks around now as the first Christmas trees appear in the shops may be studied with a little more care by analysts this year.

An embarrassed Capital Radio, in London, has had to announce formally through the International Stock Exchange that its results for the year to end-September would beat those achieved last year after the news reached the market by an unorthodox route.

Its own pocket diary contained the phrase, buried among the verbiage which normally fills such publications, that "despite the general slowdown in advertising, Capital was able to announce profit ahead of the previous year's record results".

Although this came as little surprise to the market, which had been looking for £15.8 to £15.9 million from Capital for the year, against £15.04 million last time, analysts were not actually due to hear the happy news until November 29, when the company releases its figures for the full year.

The diaries go to the station's staff and various customers, and a number were already in the post when a sharp-eyed Capital executive realised the company had just made a profit forecast.

That view was confirmed by Lazarus Brothers, its merchant bank, which insisted on the Stock Exchange announcement.

A spokesman for Capital admitted the circumstances were "not ideal".

He added: "We will be taking a new year's resolution to bring out the results and the diary next year at the same time."

So, although we would agree with those that say there has always been a better time to consider such a facility, remember it always pays to seek the best advice.

If you wish to learn more about the facts on Foreign Currency Mortgages, as well as the pro's and con's of each of our significantly differing products, call 071-839 5799.

And have a free consultation, with no obligation, with the company that's been quietly No. 1 in currency loans for years.

Wellcome shares fall as profits disappoint

By GRAHAM SEARLENT

FINANCIAL EDITOR

WELLCOME, the pharmaceutical group that produces Retrovir, the anti-Aids drug, lost 15 per cent of its stock market value after reporting profits for the year to end-August well below the lowest forecasts.

Pre-tax profits still rose by 11 per cent to £31.5 million on a 17 per cent rise in sales to £1.47 billion. A relatively lower tax charge left earnings per share 15 per cent higher at 77.7p and the dividend was raised by 29 per cent to 6.5p.

The City had expected between £335 million and £355 million profits, after results for the first half of the year, when profits rose by 28 per cent and profit margins widened.

In the second half, currency gains were lost due to the rising strength of sterling, margins were squeezed by higher selling overheads and trading profit fell 11 per cent from the first half of the year.

Over the year as a whole, profit margins fell from 22.4 to 21.2 per cent. Sales of Zovirax, the anti-herpes drug that accounts for a quarter of sales, rose by 28 per cent while Retrovir sales rose 27 per cent despite a cut in prices and recommended dosages. The company dismissed fears over possible competitors to Retrovir. Tests indicated that a cocktail of drugs including Retrovir gave the best results.

Research and development spending was increased by 21 per cent to £221 million.

Wellcome shares, which had been the highest rated among pharmaceutical companies, dropped by 67p to 384p as City analysts hurriedly reduced their profit forecasts for 1991-92. Most had been predicting more than £400 million pre-tax but the range has fallen to between £325 and £365 million.

Ian White of Kleinwort Benson said: "Analysts have got it wrong. There is now no reason to believe that Wellcome's pre-tax profits growth will be markedly higher than the sector".

Ian Moore of Phillips & Drew said: "These results were disappointing and highly rated stocks cannot afford to disappoint. Retrovir is not a wonder drug and growth will no longer be so high. The healthcare industry is struggling to maintain the super margins of the past."

Comment, page 27

Stock market, page 29

### ROBERT FRASER CURRENCY LOANS

## FOREIGN CURRENCY MORTGAGES ?

### STILL THE BEST KEPT SECRET.

At Robert Fraser Currency Loans, we were well versed in the potential advantages of foreign currency mortgages long before the UK's entry into the ERM.

After all, over the last two difficult years our currency managers, The ECU Group, have reduced our customers' mortgage debt by some 16% whilst maintaining their interest payments on average below 9%.

However, as simple as it may sound, success like this is the fruit of many years' experience and specialist skill. It requires an expertise that can bridge the gap between borrowers' needs and their capabilities and that can weigh ERM entry in the context of the broader forces at play in the currency markets, long term.

So, although we would agree with those that say there has always been a better time to consider such a facility, remember it always pays to seek the best advice.

And have a free consultation, with no obligation, with the company that's been quietly No.

# Small firms 'faring better' in economic downturn

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

SMALL companies in Britain appear to be faring better in the economic decline than larger firms, according to National Westminster Bank.

NatWest says that while small companies are clearly having a difficult time in the present recessionary climate, their position is less severe when compared with larger companies, as measured by surveys such as those produced by the Confederation of British Industry.

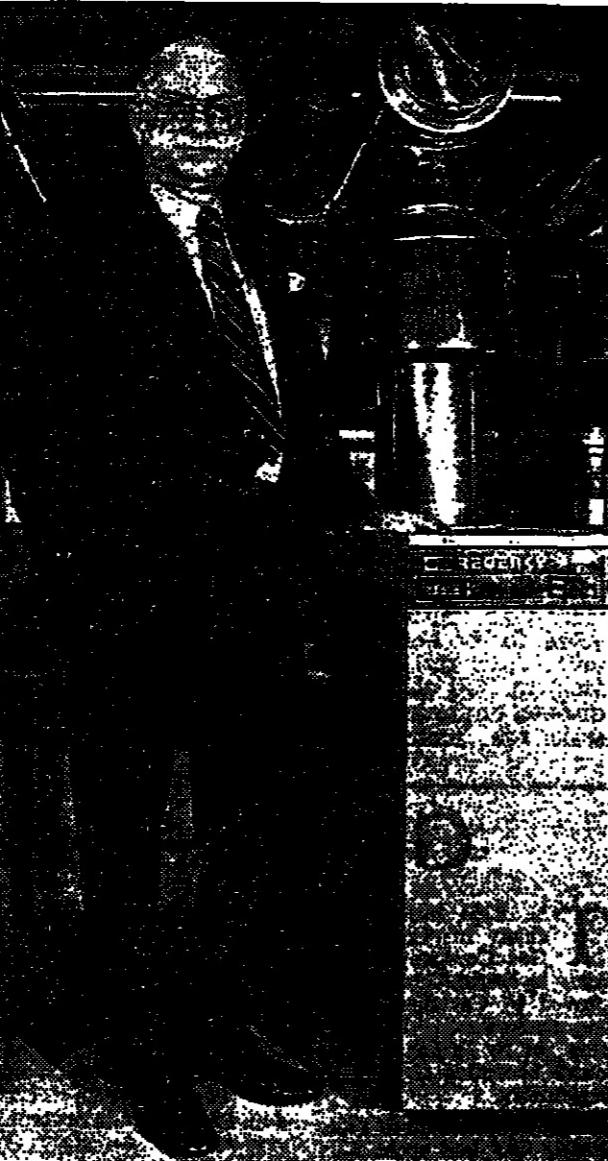
NatWest's latest quarterly survey of small businesses, looking at 1,000 companies mostly with annual sales turnover of less than £750,000, reveals that in the second quarter of this year, small companies were reporting sales and employment growth lower than the previous quarter.

While growth is still there, the balance for sales and employment fell sharply among these small companies by 60 per cent.

Fewer small companies expect their sales to grow in the third quarter. The difference between those forecasting increases and decreases fell from 26 to 16 per cent. For employment, the balance fell from 6 to 2 per cent. NatWest says

## Staveley at record £11m

JAMES MORGAN



By OUR CITY STAFF  
STAVELEY Industries, the British Salt and measuring equipment company, lifted pre-tax profits 24 per cent to a record £11 million in the half year to the end of September, on turnover 27 per cent higher at £162.8 million.

The increase in sales and profitability reflected a maiden contribution from Howe Richardson, a manufacturer of weighing equipment based in America but with substantial European interests, acquired in April for £21.8 million.

There is an interim dividend of 2.3p a share, against 2.1p last time, payable from earnings of 3.2p a share compared with 7.6p in the same period last year.

Earnings for the first half of the previous financial year have been restated after the £27.4 million rights issue which accompanied the acquisition of Howe Richard-

son. The interest charge was reduced from £1.5 million to £1.3 million, reflecting the favourable impact of foreign currency borrowings. Costs of restructuring at Salter Springs & Pressings, a subsidiary, have been charged as an extraordinary item of £2 million.

Brian Kent, the chairman, said that operations in Britain and continental Europe had performed more strongly than those in America, which had been adversely affected by the weaker dollar.

In the current economic environment, he said it was "impossible to forecast with accuracy what the next six months might hold".

## Graham Wood hit by tighter margins

By PHILIP PANGALOS

THE slowdown in the construction industry resulted in a decline in half-year profits at Graham Wood, the contracting and construction group. Pre-tax profit slipped from £885,000 to £607,000 in the six months to end September.

The group saw turnover advance from £15.6 million to £24.6 million, largely due to first-time contributions from acquisitions.

Tom Goldberg, chairman, said that the group's order book "still looks good".

He said: "Orders in hand are worth about £20 million which should see us through to next spring."

Interest costs jumped from £100,000 to £352,000 with gearing "slightly in excess" of 100 per cent although the company hopes to reduce it to 80 per cent by the year-end.

Earnings per share fell from 17p to 11.2p, with fully diluted earnings down from 14.7p to 10.8p. The interim dividend is maintained at 3p.

The closure costs of Structural Fireproofer resulted in an extraordinary loss of £175,000.

There was an exceptional debit of £2,000.

Mr Goldberg said he does not expect any immediate improvement in the difficult trading conditions, although the strategy of broadening the group's activities, including looking at possible European opportunities, gives it greater strength.

## Half-time profits more than halved at 600 Group

By MARTIN BARROW

THE 600 Group, a manufacturer of machine tools based in Staines, Middlesex, is cutting its interim dividend from 2.46p to 1.5p after a slump in pre-tax profits from £4.4 million to £1.7 million in the six months to the end of September. Earnings a share tumbled from 5.8p to 2.5p.

There was an extraordinary charge of £603,000, representing further provisions to cover the cost of the company's withdrawal from Iraq.

The interest charge climbed from £882,000 to £1.65 million, although gearing is expected to be reduced to 30 per cent of shareholders' funds by the year-end, against 32 per cent at the end of the previous 12 months.

## Platinum demand forecast to rise

By COLIN CAMPBELL

PHYSICAL demand for platinum, as opposed to investment demand, remains strong, and western world demand should be 120,000 ounces higher at 3.6 million ounces in 1990. Johnson Matthey, the precious metals group, said in its interim review of the metal.

Supply is set to reach 3.67 million ounces this year, outstripping demand for the first time in years by 70,000 ounces, and recessionary fears are likely to see platinum's price only trade between \$400 and \$475 an ounce in the next six months, against earlier hopes of a trading range of between \$470 and \$520.

Johnson Matthey predicts that by 1995 up to an additional million ounces of platinum will be required, and big South African producers have already started mine expansion in preparation.

In the longer term, platinum demand will be further stimulated by developments in frontier technologies.

The metal's role in emission controls is well entrenched and there will be new openings for its use as world economies open up and develop.

Johnson Matthey says the Japanese petroleum refining industry has become a net buyer of platinum for the first time in five years, although investment demand for platinum has been most noticeably weak in Japan.

Soviet platinum sales, after an uncertain start, picked up sharply in June.

### ALPHA STOCKS

	Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000	
ADT	1,265	CU	1,499	Lorho	2,284
Abbey Nat	1,963	Cookson	378	Shire	70
Aldi-Lyons	3,130	Courtauld	978	Stouff	363
Amersham	2,235	Dalgety	362	Marpower	421
Anglo	1,174	Davies	703	Smith & N	2,215
Argus	2,248	EDC	245	Six Beach	845
ASDA	587	Enterprise	207	SMI	1,728
AB Foods	64	Ferranti	4,753	MS Group	402
Argyll	2,198	Fisons	1,117	MPEC	63
Arco	2,208	Flame	1,100	Smitra Ind	457
BT	2,215	Gen Acid	2,101	Midland	8,228
BTH	2,246	GEC	3,247	SGM	1,008
BAT	4,018	Glen	814	Stobart	1,043
Barclays	1,059	Glynnwood	132	P&O	1,042
Barratt	2,220	Grand Met	1,254	Pearson	1,269
Bartle	1,091	GUS-A*	127	Pitney Peck	1,351
Bartle Ind	67	GTE	5,985	TI Group	1,448
BBCC	452	GKN	1,265	Prudential	1,452
Blue Circle	452	Globe	1,200	Telecom	1,456
BOC	1,468	Gullane 'N	1,280	Telco	1,477
BSPS	1,130	Hanson	5,858	Thames Wh	1,505
Bt Aero	574	Do Wts	415	Thorn EMI	1,505
Bt Alloys	2,402	H & C	848	Trident	1,514
Bt Gas	3,071	Hawker	233	THF	1,558
Bt Land	2,040	Hewlett	4,675	Ultramax	1,553
Bt Petrol	5,095	HMI	518	Unigate	1,563
Bt Steel	3,785	ICI	1,795	Unisys	1,566
Bt Telecom	4,493	Imperial	511	Rommen 'B'	1,577
Burd	184	Kingfisher	616	Royal Bank	1,581
Bushell Cast	180	Korda	1,000	Royal Inst	1,581
Burton	27,058	Ladbrokes	3,682	Rowan	1,582
CAW	2,029	Land Sec	1,210	Santander	1,582
Cadbury	1,367	Laporte	145	Scot & N	1,584
Calex	984	LG&G	676	Sears	1,584
Carton	190	Lloyd	1,032	Sedgwick	1,585
Coss	278	Lloyd's Abb	453	Severn T	1,585
				Shell	1,584

### WORLD MARKET INDICES

Index	Value	Daily change	Yearly change	Daily change	Yearly change	Daily change	Yearly change
The World (free)	583.7	-0.5	-33.2	-0.4	-24.6	-0.6	-18.8
EAFFE (free)	107.8	-0.5	-33.2	-0.5	-24.6	-0.6	-18.8
Europe (free)	984.3	-0.5	-36.8	-0.6	-32.0	-0.5	-23.4
Nth America (free)	653.1	-0.2	-22.0	0.3	-19.5	0.1	-5.3
Nordic (free)	399.2	-1.6	-25.8	-0.6	-8.8	-0.6	-8.9
Pacific (free)	187.9	0.3	-20.1	0.4	-14.7	0.2	-3.0
Far East (free)	2,176.5	-1.0	-45.1	-1.3	-39.5	-1.0	-33.3
Australia	315.01	-1.1	-45.8	-1.4	-40.5	-1.1	-33.9
Austria	236.4	0.2	-31.9	0.0	-15.2	0.1	-17.3
Belgium	1,912.2	-0.3	-11.7	-0.2	-6.3	-0.4	-7.3
Canada	718.4	-0.8	-27.0	-0.5	-24.1	-0.8	-11.3
Denmark	388.9	-0.2	-33.8	0.3	-18.4	-0.2	-18.3
Finland	1,149.2	0.3	-12.7	0.5	-8.8	0.3	-6.1
France (free)	85.0	-0.1	-43.6	0.1	-39.9	0.1	-31.5
Germany	87.9	0.1	-41.1	0.2	-37.1	0.1	-28.4
Hong Kong	704.7	1.0	-23.1	1.2	-16.5	1.0	-8.7
Italy	1,885.4	-0.5	-14.6	-0.5	-3.7	-0.5	-3.8
Japan	255.5	-0.2	-33.7	0.0	-29.2	-0.2	-19.5
Netherlands	3,311.2	-1.1	-46.3	-1.4	-41.5	-1.1	-34.8
New Zealand	723.1	-0.2	-23.5	0.0	-18.3	-0.2	-17.1
Norway	1,182.1	-0.7	-14.2	-0.5	-8.3	-0.8	-4.3
(free)	203.6	-0.6	-12.9	-0.5	-7.1	-0.7	-5.9
Sing/Malay	1,367.2	0.2	-31.5	0.0	-25.0	0.1	-16.7
Spain	1,704	-0.2	-28.0	0.0	-24.7	-0.3	-20.6
(free)	1,147.1	0.3	-34.6	0.4	-28.1	0.2	-18.7
Switzerland	1,720.8	-0.7	-21.2	-0.3	-22.2	-0.7	-4.2
(free)	1,102	-0.7	-21.1	-0.4	-22.1	-0.8	-4.1
UK	610.8	0.5	-15.3	0.5	-15.3	0.5	2.8
USA	361.8	-0.6	-25.1	-0.8	-30.0	-0.6	-8.0

\*For local currency. Source: Morgan Stanley Capital International.

\*\*Local currency. Source: Morgan Stanley Capital International.

Source: Morgan Stanley Capital International.

**T**wo million pounds to pay off Sir Ralph Halpern may not sound like value for money to the 50,000 owners of the company, the army of small shareholders who backed the very man being paid off, and the institutions who wanted him out, but not necessarily at any price.

Halpern has increasingly turned from the Burton Group's most valuable asset into something of a liability. So long as he remained in the commanding positions of both chairman and chief executive, the group had little future with the City. The share price was dragged down, not in relation to the failing fortunes of Burton (which are understandable in the present environment), but because of uncertainty over Halpern's future. The question long ago ceased to be "if", and had become "when". The subsidiary question was whether he would leave entirely, or merely give up one of his jobs.

The longer the questions remained unresolved, the more certain became the eventual answer: he would go, and it was merely a matter of talking terms.

Faltering performance is only

one of reasons advanced for the dumping of Halpern. More important is that he tried to run Burton as if it were a proprietorial, or at best family, business. He had seen at close quarters how Gerald Ronson commanded Heron, but overlooked that Ronson has no share price to undermine, no institutions to answer to and the "right to manage" that comes only with a family business. Other entrepreneurial chief executives who did away with the guiding hand of a strong chairman have suffered the same fate. For others, the day of reckoning is yet to come.

Fund managers probably allowed themselves a quiet smile into their cocoa last night, but as they swept the crumbs of their digestive biscuits from the bed they might have wondered whether Halpern's pay-off was a reasonable price to pay to get Sir John Hoskyns installed as chairman. Hoskyns falls in to the

"great and good" category but has little in his past business career to suggest that he is suited to inherit Halpern's shoes. He made a great deal of noise, and some worthwhile enemies including Robert Maxwell and Lord Plumb, for his bare knuckle attacks last year over the "fiasco" of the single European market. His speeches were seen, both at the time and with the benefit of hindsight, as ill-judged and intemperate, hardly ideal qualifications for leading a company out of trouble.

He was a member of the board of Ferranti when it approved the takeover of International Signal Corporation, a deal which brought Ferranti to the brink of bankruptcy. He sat by the elbow

of Sir Derek Alun-Jones, the Ferranti chairman, and subsequently played a part in his removal when the full extent of the ISC folly became apparent. He was invited by Halpern himself on to the Burton board, and again took part in the removal of his patron.

Meanwhile, there is a near perfect symmetry in Halpern, an unofficial adviser to the prime minister, being ousted on the day that Michael Heseltine challenged for leadership. But there is a jarring element in that Hoskyns is a hangover from the Thatcher years, for he headed her policy unit in the early eighties. That Halpern had to go is beyond dispute, but unless Burton is for sale, the present boardroom

seem to be drawing a perverse pleasure from the way the pound's present weakness is interacting with the threat of a further monetary tightening in Germany before the end of the year. Between them, these two developments would almost certainly rule out another cut in rates before Christmas — if the Bank were in charge of interest rates, which of course it is not, at least under Mrs Thatcher.

The Bank also casts an interesting sidelight on the vexed question of over-gearing in its annual survey of 1,000 top British companies. This shows that the manufacturing sector actually increased its profitability and improved its interest cover between 1988 and 1989. The real financial damage last year was done to the non-manufacturing sector, while the manufacturing sector continued to do well.

Obviously this was too hard on retailers, financiers, housebuilders and consumers. A major objective of ERM entry was to "spread the pressure of adjustment more widely across the corporate sector," the Bank notes.

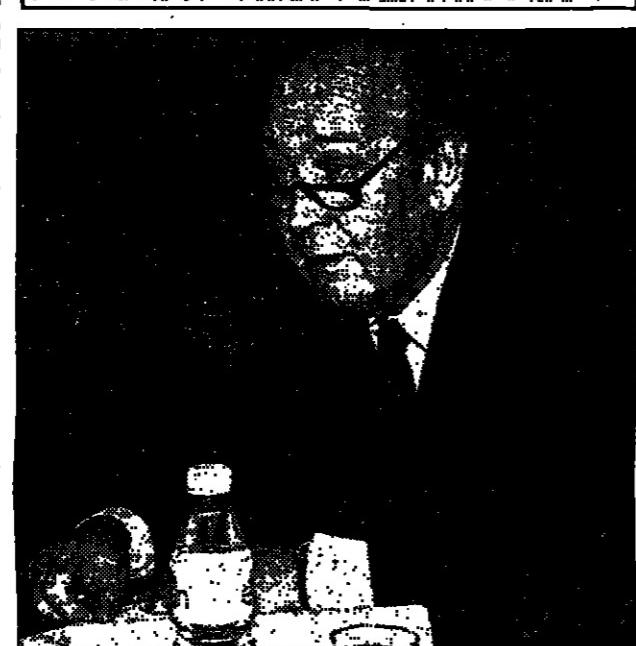
## COMMENT

DAVID BREWERTON

# A part exchange at Burton Group

## Wellcome loses its super star status

TEMPUS



Drug sales growth: Sir Alistair Frame, of Wellcome

economics of both its key markets ran into near-recession but also the weak dollar was eating into every cent of profit, amounts to some trend-bucking.

When the collapse of the junk bond market scuppered plans to unload its flabby North American operations a year ago, management promptly despatched Norman Scoular, group chief executive, to America to oversee the restructuring.

Several factories and substantial numbers of employees lighter, the North American

In no less tough conditions, UK profits just failed to hold

up, the North American

With profits of £26.5 million likely this year, the shares trade on a prospective p/e of 10.7 and are fairly valued.

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Alexander's battle cry

LONDON will remain the most important financial centre in Europe and is the best choice for foreign companies seeking a base there. Such is the view of Lord Alexander of Weedon, chairman of National Westminster Bank and past chairman of the Takeover Panel, who has thrown his full weight behind London's importance to the international community. He travels to Bangkok this weekend to address business leaders on behalf of British Invisibles — the former British Invisible Exports Council — before repeating the message in Jakarta a week later. "London is a marvellous financial centre and has a very able skills base," says Lord Alexander, aged 54, who will be joined by Robin Fox, vice-chairman of Kleinwort Benson, and a distinguished delegation from the Square Mile, including Lord Camoys, deputy chairman of BZW and Anthony Loehnis, vice-chairman of SG Warburg. "If we handle London properly, we can keep it as the dominant financial centre. We have been the best port of entry into Europe so far." Once his business in Thailand and Indonesia is complete, he travels to Singapore and Tokyo, accompanied by Tom Frost, group chief executive of NatWest, before returning via Moscow in two weeks. "I have never been there, although my wife has, and I am very keen to not only

to see the art treasures but to meet bankers who have visited us in London," he adds.

### Food for thought

AS MARKS and Spencer puts the finishing touches to its new Moorgate food hall, due to open in the spring, a group of bullion dealers at Sharps Pixley have opened a book of suitable contents. Pork Bellies would be a favourite with fund managers, known for their copious girths, while Frozen Assets would be suitable for Asil Nadir. Platinum Sponge — the dealer's term for grain — may grace the table of Sir Michael Edwards of Minorco, while Tiny Rowland, chief executive of Louro, could develop a taste for Gold Blend. Humble Pie would be a must for the analysts who tipped Polly Peck a share of the year and last, but not least, would be a Basket of Currencies, bought off the shelf, and with a handle each for Sir

Geoffrey Howe and Margaret Thatcher.

**Playing the game**

THE changes sweeping eastern Europe have inspired McKenna & Co, the London solicitor, to scale new heights in its search for business. Not only is the firm encouraging its staff to take holidays in the region, but it is also doing its best to promote sporting links. Members of McKenna's lacrosse team returned this week from a tour of Czechoslovakia, where the firm is registering an office. But Dick Shadforth, head of the East European desk, who has visited the area on several occasions, was not among them. The team won half their games — despite discovering at the last minute that the Czechs play three different versions of lacrosse — and trips to Hungary and Poland may follow.

### Royal joker

PRINCE Edward joins a host of distinguished guests at London's Strand Theatre on Sunday night for a glittering charity revue featuring some of the City's most talented artists. Taking centre stage behind a white grand piano is Philip Lambert, better known as North Sea analyst on Kleinwort Benson's top rated oil desk. "With talk of recession and bad times just around the corner, we decided it would be a good idea to cheer people up a bit," says Lambert, aged 29, who tried his hand as an actor-composer before turning to the square.

JON ASHWORTH



الجامعة

## BUSINESS AND FINANCE 27

arrangements should not be seen as anything other than temporary.

### Tough lady

MICHAEL HESELTINE'S calls for a politically independent Bank of England may go down well with many industrialists, but if the Old Lady were unleashed completely, interest rates might be higher and manufacturing companies weaker than they are today. That, at least, is the implication of many of the comments in yesterday's Bank of England quarterly bulletin.

Given the unexpected weakness of sterling after ERM entry, and its further sharp fall in the last few days, there can be little doubt that the Bank would strongly oppose any further cuts in interest rates until and unless the pound recovered. In fact, the monetary hawks in the Bank

## Global springboard for B Gas

THE £565 million purchase of Consumers' Gas Company of Toronto by British Gas, now approved by Canadian regulatory authorities, is the biggest step yet by British Gas towards becoming a global energy utility.

Since privatisation in 1986, British Gas has spent £2.5 billion on acquisitions. These

have been in oil and gas exploration.

That is no accident.

George Langshaw,

British Gas's managing director, global gas, pointed out:

"Gas utilities are very important in people's lives. Governments of all shades are loathe to lose control of them."

British Gas won approval in

Canada to buy Consumers,

the country's fourth biggest utility with a million customers, only after it demonstrated benefits to the company it was acquiring, its commitment to investment and ecologically-sound management, and to customer service standards.

Competitors are expected to

pick up a significant slice of

new bulk business supplying

the coming generation of gas-fired power stations. They

much more difficult than

snapping up exploration and production interests, but for British Gas investors, it is in many ways more attractive. The distribution business is the utility part of its activities. Its earnings are strong and dependable. Exploration and production are high-risk affairs with uncertain rewards.

The company earns the

majority of its revenues from

distribution in Britain. Gas

consumption is still rising. In

1989, British Gas added

another 350,000 customers to

its 18-million-strong customer base. Robert Evans, the chairman, said continued growth at that rate over the next five years would leave very few more homes to be connected.

Meanwhile, a series of rulings

from Ofgas, the regulatory body for the gas industry,

has left British Gas vulnerable

to growing competition in the

provision of supplies to large

industrial customers.

Deregulation has changed

the way Canadian utilities

obtain gas. Consumers is now

able to buy its supplies from

producers on the west coast,

and pay pipeline operators to

pump them 3,000 kilometres.

With the purchase of Consumers, British Gas also gains an important technical base.

Consumers has converted the engines of its road vehicles to natural gas. Its research into gas injection technology, and fuel storage tanks is among the most advanced in the world.

There is also scope for the use of gas in Canadian power generation. Demand is projected to rise, but nuclear generation is no longer seen as an attractive option.

New combined cycle gas turbines, potentially offering a very large gas demand, have a much higher thermal efficiency than coal- or oil-fired plants.

Mr Evans believes British Gas has more to offer than financial muscle; British Gas is a world leader in gas distribution technology.

Mr Evans says it can help Consumers reach customers beyond the distance

from the mains which distribution companies would normally consider. In turn, Consumers should provide a springboard for selling British Gas technology in North America.

ROSS TIEMAN  
Industrial Correspondent

## A SIMPLE WAY INTO EUROTUNNEL

### TELEPHONE SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE

The Eurotunnel Rights Issue is now underway. If you wish to acquire new Eurotunnel shares, you could do so simply by telephoning the Eurotunnel ShareLink Service\* on 0922 745 745. This service is open from 8.30 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. on weekdays until 26 November. The commission charged for each transaction, including handling all documentation for you, will be £10.

Existing shareholders could use this service to acquire new shares in addition to their entitlement under the Rights Issue. Alternatively you could buy new shares through your stockbroker, bank or other intermediary.

### NEW TRAVEL PRIVILEGES

Depending on the level of your investment, starting with a minimum of 45 new shares, you may obtain new Eurotunnel Travel Privileges. If you wish, you may nominate another individual to have these privileges instead of you. Full details of the new Travel Privileges are contained in the prospectus.

Investment in the Eurotunnel Rights Issue should be made only on the basis of information contained in the prospectus. If you do not have a prospectus, telephone the Eurotunnel Share Information Line on 0800 300 393.



### EUROTUNNEL SHARELINK\*

0922 745 745

\* Until 4.00 p.m. on 26 November. This service will be provided by ShareLink Limited. ShareLink is an execution-only stockbroker and does not provide financial advice. It is a member of The Stock Exchange and The Securities Association. Investment in Eurotunnel involves a significant degree of risk. The value of shares and rights to subscribe for shares can go down as well as up. If you are considering investing in Eurotunnel, it is recommended that you consult an appropriate professional adviser. Issued by Eurotunnel PLC and Eurotunnel SA, and approved by Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited, a member of The Securities Association, for the purpose of section 57 of the Financial Services Act 1986.

## **THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE**

## **UNLISTED SECURITIES**

#### **INVESTMENT TRUSTS**

### **THIRD MARKET**

Low Company	
3	28 Anderson
3	29 Cole Inc.
3	290 Chardwell
5	30 Clinton A.
4	6 Clinton L.
5	25 Cloverbud
5	31 Edgewood
6	5 For E. Inc.
7	25 Hickey
7	29 Hoerstel
7	4 Karpco Inc.
7	29 Lamm

COMMODITIES

**LONDON OIL REPORTS** - London crude oil continued the downward path, witness to a break, owing to technical news rather than fundamental factors mixed in thin trading.

CRUDE OILS/seasoned (\$/BBL, POS)	
Std Phys	\$2.45
day Dec	\$2.05
day Jan	\$0.80
1 Dec	\$1.20
J Jan	\$0.90
PRODUCTS-Buyout \$/MT.	
spot CIF NW Europe - prompt delivery	
in Gas .15	-4
oil EEC	-4
in 1H Dec	-2
in 1H Jan	-8
Petrol Oil	125-130
xtina	318-319
GAS	
Dec	
Jan	
Feb	
Mar	
Apr	
May	
Jun	
Vol	
BRE	
Dec	
Jan	

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**FOREIGN EXCHANGES**

change index compared with 1985 was same at 93.7 (day's range 93.5-93.7).

**OTHER STERLING RATES**

	Range	Close	1 month	3 month	
Wk	1.9565-1.9615	1.9600-1.9610	1.00-0.99pr	2.75-2.74pr	Australia dollar
1	2.2748-2.2816	2.2775-2.2816	0.34-0.30pr	0.77-0.69pr	Bahrain dinar
dm	3.2540-3.2659	3.2595-3.2631	1%-1%pr	3%-3%pr	British cruiser
ds	50.62-50.85	50.56-50.77	25-24pr	72-53pr	Cyprus pound
gn	11.0743-11.1375	11.1228-11.1375	3%-3%pr	5%-5%pr	Finland markka
1.0770-1.0787	1.0775-1.0785	34-22pr	55-76pr	Greece drachma	
ft	2.8848-2.8971	2.8830-2.8864	1%-1%pr	3%-3%pr	Hong Kong dollar
253.48-255.78	254.41-255.52	45-67pr	155-217pr	India rupee	
193.81-195.12	194.44-195.12	3-11ds	23-40ds	Kuwait dinar KD	
2175.40-2186.52	2182.48-2186.52	4-2pr	11-7pr	Malaysia ringgit	
11.2996-11.3222	11.2818-11.2473	2%-2%pr	6%-6%pr	Mexico peso	
8.7268-8.7712	8.7548-8.7697	3%-3%pr	8%-8%pr	New Zealand dollar	
10.8423-10.8634	10.8682-10.8694	%-kds	3%-3%ds	Saudi Arabia riyal	
252.48-253.46	253.13-253.48	1%-1%pr	3%-3%pr	Singapore dollar	
20.28-20.35	20.32-20.35	9%-8%pr	24%-22%pr	S Africa rand (fin)	
2.4442-2.4562	2.4520-2.4552	1%-1%pr	3%-2%pr	S Africa rand (com.)	
am = pr. Discount = ds.					U A E dirham

85 Japan 128.82-128.92 At  
30 Rates supplied by Barclay

MONEY MARKETS						
RAISE %: CLEARING BANKS 14 FINANCE HSBC 15			EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %			
short Maturity Loans %			Currency	7 day	1 month	3 months
right High: 14 Low: 13% Week End: 14			Dollar	7% <sup>+</sup> -7% <sup>-</sup>	7% <sup>+</sup> -7%	8% <sup>+</sup> -7%
Bank Bills (Discount %)			Call 5-7%			
1: 2 mth - 13% <sup>+</sup>	3 mth - 13%		Deutsche Mark	8% <sup>+</sup> -8%	8% <sup>+</sup> -8%	9-8% <sup>+</sup> -8%
2: 2 mth - 13%	3 mth - 13%		Call 8-7			
Bank Bills (Discount %): 1 mth: 13% <sup>+</sup> -13%	3 mth: 13% <sup>+</sup> -13%	6 mth: 12% <sup>+</sup> -12%	French Franc	9% <sup>+</sup> -8%	9% <sup>+</sup> -11%	10% <sup>+</sup> -9%
13% <sup>+</sup> -13%	3 mth: 13% <sup>+</sup> -13%	6 mth: 12% <sup>+</sup> -12%	Call 10-9			
14% <sup>+</sup> -13%	3 mth: 13% <sup>+</sup> -13%	6 mth: 13% <sup>+</sup> -13%	Swiss Franc	8% <sup>+</sup> -8%	8% <sup>+</sup> -8%	8% <sup>+</sup> -8%
			Call 2-7			

8%-7% 5'x8'x8'x8'x8'

<b>Authority Deposits</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>14%<sub>1/2</sub></b>
14% <sub>1/2</sub>	6 min: 13%	12 min: 12%
5 Cds (7%)	1 min: 14%-14% <sub>1/2</sub>	
13%-14% <sub>1/2</sub>	5 min: 13%-13% <sub>1/2</sub>	12 min: 12%-12%
Cds (10%)	1 min: 7.50-7.65	
5.00-7.95	5 min: 7.50-7.95	12 min: 7.90-7.95
5 Sovereign Cds (7%)		
14%-14% <sub>1/2</sub>	2 min: 14-13% <sub>1/2</sub>	3 min: 13%-13% <sub>1/2</sub>
13%-13% <sub>1/2</sub>	9 min: 12%-12%	12 min: 12%-12%
<b>ECGD</b>		
Rate Export Finance. Maka-up day: Oct 10. Arrival date: Nov 20. 1990 to Dec 20. 1990.		

Platinum pm fcc \$414.25 (2211.15)  
Palladium pm fcc \$82.75 (247.25)  
Soot Shaff F4 17-14 18-19 19-20 19-21 14-15

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES				
Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
100 2070.0 2118.0	2084.0 2118.0	2020.0 2118.0	2094.0 2125.0	3000 7
Month Sterling GLD4	58.75 58.51	58.51 58.51	58.76 58.98	15000
	Previous open interest 280220 2804	Previous open interest 195491 1954	Previous open interest 1494 1494	
	Dec 04	83.80	83.87	83.90
	Dec 05	83-17	83-19	83-05
	Dec 06	83-18	83-18	83-01

	Open	Close	Change	Vol.	Prev. Day Chg.	Prev. Day % Chg.	Previous Open
Eurodollar	Previous open interest 45100	Dec 50 —	—	63-15	64-00	63-05	
	52.11	52.10	2142	52-25	64-11	63-25	

<b>Month Euro DM</b>	Previous open interest	760714	<b>Japanese Govt Bond</b>	Previous open interest	890
\$2.45	\$2.45	\$2.43	\$2.44	Mar 91	\$1.35
\$2.55	\$2.55	\$2.54	\$2.55	Mar 91	\$1.34
\$2.55	\$2.55	\$2.54	\$2.55	Mar 91	\$1.32

LONDON FOX  
COA AMT Foxboro  
871-879 Sec 789-787

				Cash	3 month	Vol
Mar 714-713	Sep 614-613	{\$/tonne}				
May 746-745	Mar 646-645					
Jul 768-765	Vol 7303					
<b>COFFEE</b>						
Nov 563-562	AMT Future	Copper Gde A	1331.5-1322.0	1327.5-1326.5	663626	
Jan 577-576	Jul 564-563	Lead	368.00-368.50	371.00-371.50	60825	
Mar 557-553	Sep 561-560	Zinc Spec HI*	1282.0-1284.0	1280.0-1282.0	121825	
May 570-558	Nov 516-513	Tin*	6150.0-6140.0	6150.0-6160.0	65776	
	Vol 1770	Aluminium HI*	1053.0-1056.0	1052.0-1053.0	523550	
<b>SUGAR</b>		Nickel*	8850.0-8855.0	8850.0-8850.0	12162	
ECS	C Cane/canister	7 (Cents per Troy oz.) {5 per tonne}				
	Vol 1000					

**LONDON MEAT FUTURES (1991)**

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES				Live Pig Contract				Avg. fatstock prices at representative markets on November 15			
		Mth	Open	Close	(kg/bw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle			
WHEAT class 5/10	Vol 463	Nov	ung	86.8	GB (p)	76.17	137.24	106.30			
Nr 118.10 Ja 118.40 Mr 122.15		Dec	ung	91.5	GB (+/-)	-2.80	-22.43	-10.30			
My 128.50 Jr 128.00 Sp 108.25		Feb	82.0	87.3	Eng/Wel (%)	+9.2	-47.5	-18.6			
BARLEY class 5/10	Vol 13	Mar	86.5	87.3	Eng/Wel (o)	76.27	138.05	105.49			
Nr 112.85 Ja 116.00 Mr 119.00		Live Cattle Contract			Eng/Wel (+/-)	-2.48	-22.71	-2.08			
My 120.00 Sp 107.50 Nr 110.75		Oct	ung	-	Scotland (p)	n/a	-27.4	-7.5			
SOYABEAN AMT/Futures	Dec 102.5 LAST	Nov	ung	-	Scotland (o)	n/a	134.77	104.51			
Feb unq		Jan	ung	-	Scotland (+/-)	n/a	20.25	-0.38			
Vol 2				Vol Pig-6 Cattle-0	* Estimated dead carcass weight						

# e profi n halve Group

## WALL STREET

### Dow slides 14 points

New York SHARES were under pressure at mid-morning as investors took profits after this week's sharp rise in prices. The Dow Jones industrial average was 14 points lower at 2,545.65 with falling issues outnumbering rises by about 1,116.41. (Reuter)

**May 10 May 11 May 12 May 13 May 14**

**May 15 May 16 May 17 May 18 May 19**

**May 20 May 21 May 22 May 23 May 24**

**May 25 May 26 May 27 May 28 May 29**

**May 30 May 31 May 32 May 33 May 34**

**May 35 May 36 May 37 May 38 May 39**

**May 40 May 41 May 42 May 43 May 44**

**May 45 May 46 May 47 May 48 May 49**

**May 50 May 51 May 52 May 53 May 54**

**May 55 May 56 May 57 May 58 May 59**

**May 60 May 61 May 62 May 63 May 64**

**May 65 May 66 May 67 May 68 May 69**

**May 70 May 71 May 72 May 73 May 74**

**May 75 May 76 May 77 May 78 May 79**

**May 80 May 81 May 82 May 83 May 84**

seven to three. Crude oil prices slipped, helping semi-conductors, but bonds were weak.

● Singapore — The market closed mixed after subdued trading. Brokers said the Straits Times industrial index edged up by 1.59 points to end at 1,116.41. (Reuter)

SHARES in Grand Metropolitan, the international food and drinks group, rose 15p to 71p with hopes growing that its public house/breweries exchange deal with Elders DKL, the Australian group that owns Courage, may be about to reach a successful conclusion.

In the past month the two sides have had extensive talks with the Office of Fair Trading in an attempt to put together a package that would receive the approval of Peter Lilley, the trade secretary. He threatened to block the deal after an extensive enquiry by the monopolies commission unless Elders and GrandMet agreed to stringent conditions.

These included revising the duration of the supply agreement between the sides and the limit on the number of tied pubs that would be permitted. The OFT will pass on its report today.

It is thought that a basis for an agreement has been established, although it may require a little give and take from all sides before it is rubber stamped. City sources say the DTI is now anxious to reach a settlement as soon as possible.

Bass announced this week that it had identified 2,650 public houses that it intended either to sell or lease to meet MMC requirements. The shares rose 21p to 998p in anticipation.

Meanwhile, selective support enabled the equity market to cast aside worries about the challenge to Mrs Thatcher's leadership and about starting for the time being. Prices were marked higher and the FT-SE 100 index closed just below its best for the day with a rise of 14.0 points at 2,060.0. The FT index also put on 16.4 points at 1,599.6 as a small programme trade raised turnover to 434 million shares. A

steady pound enabled government securities to score gains of 5% at the longer end. Racial Electronics rose 40p to 190p with 11 million shares traded. This week, it announced the demerger of its interests in Chubb and Racial Telecom. But it could be

43p to 75p after touching 60p. The nil-paid was floated at 25p this week and is equivalent to three units.

Sir Ralph Halpern's decision to step down as the chairman and chief executive of Burton Group was greeted with a rise in the price of 10p

months before the management is ready to proceed with the proposed buyout of the rump of the business. Racial Telecom advanced 6p to 284p.

Treasure Forte added 6p at 260p ahead of a presentation for fund managers, arranged by James Capel.

There was little sign of a halt to the slide in Euroshares amid growing fears that most of the £500 million rights issue will be left with the underwriters. Although the prices managed to close off the bottom, the units ended 7p down at 313p, after 320p, while the nil-paid tumbled

to 77p after 81p. His resignation had been widely expected. He walks away with a cash payment and bonuses totalling £2 million and a pension of £45,000 a year. Laurence Coddin has been appointed chief executive.

The news coincided with another profit setback for Burton. Full-year figures

showed pre-tax profits falling from £216 million to £133 million.

The group has reported an extraordinary debit of £83.9 million relating to the withdrawal from its property development interests. The final dividend has been cut to

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No.	Company	Group	Gains or Loss
11	Lloyds (ns)	Banks, Discount	
21	Stean Walker	Leisure	
31	Meyer Inv	Building Roads	
41	Dai-ichi (ns)	Foods	
51	Granada Hds	Industrials E-K	
61	P & O Didi (ns)	Transport	
71	Treasury Inst	Newspapers, Pub	
81	Stobart (ns)	Electronics	
91	Glaxo (ns)	Industrials E-K	
101	Wardle Sturgeys Plc	Chemicals, Plas	
111	Wessex Water	Water	
121	Guinness (ns)	Breweries	
131	Enterprise (ns)	Oil/Gas	
141	Abbay National (ns)	Banks, Discount	
151	Scot & New (ns)	Breweries	
161	Concorde	Industrials A-D	
171	Ladbrokes (ns)	Hospital Care	
181	Tarmac (ns)	Building Roads	
191	Greyhound	Property	
201	Power Corp	Property	
211	Rainbow Org (ns)	Industrials L-R	
221	Times Inst IV	Leisure	
231	PK Group	Motors/Aircraft	
241	South West	Water	
251	Yorkshire Water	Water	
261	Rural Telecom (ns)	Electronics	
271	Yorkshire TV	Leisure	
281	Rolls-Royce (ns)	Motors/Aircraft	
291	Boots (ns)	Industrials A-D	
301	Fisons (ns)	Industrials E-K	
311	Unilever (ns)	Industrials S-Z	
321	Blue Circle (ns)	Building Roads	
331	Broken Hill	Industrials A-D	
341	BAA (ns)	Transport	
351	Anglia TV 'A'	Leisure	
361	Electrohome	Electronics	
371	ECC Group (ns)	Industrials E-K	
381	Ulstram (ns)	Oil/Gas	
391	Williams Hedges (ns)	Industrials S-Z	
401	Dixons	Electronics	
411	Color Gp	Oil/Gas	
421	Brixton	Property	
431	Buildings (ns)	Banks, Discount	
441	Bonus PLC (ns)	Building Roads	
451	Times Newspapers Ltd.	Daily Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

## Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £12,000 in tomorrow's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

Three readers shared the £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. Mr Trevor Gilfoyle, of Scarborough, Canon Donald Lyon, of Longlevens, Gloucester, and Mrs Susan Cooper, of Chesham Bois, Amersham, Bucks, each receive £666.66.

## BRITISH FUNDS

High/Low Stock Price Change % P/E

## SHORTS (Under Five Years)

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93% 83% Eros 10000 25% 10000 25% 10000 25%

94% 84% Eros 10000 25% 10000 25% 10000 25%

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# Driving a bargain or a millstone?

Buying a car at a discounted price at the wrong time of the year can cost hundreds of pounds when the owner resells. The director of a leasing company explains the economics

**T**empting offers to buy a new car at knock-down prices drop on to the doormat at this time of year. No matter what the sticker price says, almost every showroom will be happy to knock off a few hundred pounds for the sake of doing business at a time when sales are almost 12 per cent down.

The discounts look attractive, but the head of one of Britain's large fleet companies is advising potential buyers to beware. A bargain could turn into a millstone when it is time to sell the car.

Resale is hardly the foremost factor in the minds of buyers, as they brandish cheque books. Colour, comfort and reliability are top of the list, but few, it seems, consider their car in the same way as their house by wondering about the fundamental factor of its second-hand value.

Geoff Beoque, the director of Leasecontracts, a Midlands-based fleet-leasing company, says this is one of the most difficult times for buyers choosing cars that will have lasting value. Cars that lose value quickly will inevitably affect the motorist's buying power the next time he or she comes to replace the old model.

Mr Beoque produces graphic evidence to show that buying just a week too early, for example, could cost extra in the long run. New cars

registered in December and July resale at a lower price than those registered in January and August. A Ford Sierra Sapphire 2.0i GLS, for example, registered in December 1987, is worth £4,225, while one registered in January would be worth £4,650 — a difference of £425.

Mr Beoque adds that a Mercedes 260 D registered in July 1987 is worth £625 less than the same model with an E registration bought only a month later.

A private buyer might ac-

tend to stand out in the list of resales in the next few months, possibly leaving its owner to bear a big loss when trading in.

Be careful about large discounts, Mr Beoque warns, because they will almost certainly be docked from the resale price. Instead, note that Honda, Toyota and BMW are among companies that have abolished discounts and restricted availability, leading to high resale values.

The big British makers are catching on. Rover has been criticised for not discounting the 200 series, but executives say discounts will badly affect resale values. Mr Beoque identifies the 200/400 series as a range that buyers want but cannot get immediately and which, as a result, are holding their value.

He adds that motorists should bear in mind that manufacturers change models every five to seven years. The earlier in the model cycle you buy, the more current, and therefore the more valuable, the car is at resale. For example, a Sierra bought now will be rated as "old" at resale within three years, because a replacement model is due for launch the next year.

Some cars will attract buyers whether there is a recession or not. The Volkswagen Golf 2, Peugeot 205 GTI and Ford Escort XR3i are among those models with a dedicated following. Other unusual models doing well include Range Rover, Land-Rover Discovery, Renault Espace, Mitsubishi Shogun and Toyota Landcruiser.

Look for good colour and accessory packages. Bright colours sell better than greys and beiges. Second-hand prestige cars, such as BMW and Mercedes, must have a sunroof, electric windows and a good stereo system to attract the buyers.

Leasecontracts has identified "winners and losers" in the depreciation stakes in a survey, among E-registered cars with about 45,000 miles on the clock (see table).

Leasecontracts has identified "winners and losers" in the depreciation stakes in a survey, among E-registered cars with about 45,000 miles on the clock (see table).

Source: Leasecontracts

	Cost new	Current price	% of original value
Mercedes 190E	£14,989	£10,025	67
Peugeot 205 GTI	£7,715	£4,525	59
BMW 316	£9,907	£5,825	59
Honda Civic 1.5 GTI	£7,450	£4,275	57
Volvo 740 GLE Estate	£14,920	£8,250	55
Fiat Croma 1.6 Super	£7,400	£2,575	22
Lancia Thema V6 Auto	£15,170	£3,700	24
Audi Romeo 75 1.8	£9,890	£3,000	30
Audi 100CD	£14,768	£4,400	30
Lancia Prisma 1600i	£7,400	£2,375	32

Source: Leasecontracts



Perfect finish: Jaguar's powerful 200bhp Sovereign 3.2 has a top speed of 131mph

## Big cat after the cream

THIS year is turning out to be the worst for Jaguar since the company pulled back on the brink of bankruptcy in 1980.

The loss in production earlier this week of about 500 cars, worth about £13 million, because of body panel production problems, would usually have prompted anguish at the Coventry plant, but output is one thing the company does not need at the moment. Sales in Britain during the first ten months of this year are down by 24 per cent, and in the United States, Jaguar's biggest market, they slumped by more than 27 per cent in October.

Jaguar is happy to take a breather in a year when sales could fall from a projected 48,000 cars to about 42,000 in 1991, about the same as in 1986.

Nine of every ten Jaguars sold in the UK are bought by businesses, but expensive cars are the first items of expenditure to come under review when companies tighten their belts.

None of Jaguar's competitors has shown comparable

losses because their wider range of models has cushioned them against falling sales in the luxury market. Sales of BMW models, from the small 3-series through to the 7-series, are down about 12 per cent this year, and Mercedes-Benz, which has the 190 model, has lost only 5 per cent of its sales.

Until Bill Haydon, a former Ford chief who now runs Jaguar, introduces a mid-range competitor for the BMW 3-series, the company will have to soldier on with its

present line-up. The previous 2.9-litre XJ6 range was designed for the British businessman but, like some company chairmen, was a little overweight and under-powered.

Switching to a 200bhp, 3.2-litre power unit, however,

gives the "starch" Jaguars the extra strength they need to carry the weight of all that wood and leather opulence.

The improvement is immediately noticeable: better pulling power from a standing start and extraordinarily relaxed motorway cruising.

The frugal would not look twice at a Jaguar, although a few did watch with fascination as I filled up the Sovereign 3.2 on test. Petrol consumption rarely beats 20mpg.

The new engine should be enough to encourage potential buyers to take a second look at Jaguar, particularly if they are dithering between a British and German car. Inside, there can be few cars which can match the feel and quality of a Jaguar, like a well-fitting, hand-made English shoe.

BY KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

## ROADWISE

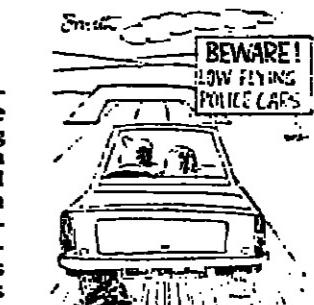
### Motorists warned about warranties

■ Sir Gordon Bonnic, the director general of Fair Trading, is warning motorists to be careful of extended warranty offers on used cars. Prompted by enquiries by *The Times*, he says drivers should ensure cover is a contract between them and a named insurer, not the garage involved. They should also check what is covered, as normal wear and tear and labour charges are often excluded, and whether regular servicing is in the deal.

#### Pick a winner

■ The BRM that helped Graham Hill to a world title comes under the hammer at an auction organised by Brooks on Monday. The 1.5-litre VS BRM P758/1 "Old Faithful" contributed to Hill's victory in 1962. Also at the sale, at Olympia, London, will be the Lagonda which won the Le Mans 24-hour race in 1935.

#### Racer-chaser



#### Winter check

■ Get your car checked before the winter to avoid the coughs and splutters that bring thousands of vehicles to a standstill. Hertz Leasing and Fleet Management has laid on free checks for all its customers at 420 Kwik-Fit centres, and the company advises all motorists to have their cars inspected.

#### Sound advice

■ Troubled travellers could try a new service to smooth journeys through Britain's congested roads. The service, En Route, will relay details of travel conditions, alternative scenic routes, eating stops and hotels, or 0898 449880, charged at 4p a minute at peak time and 33p off peak.

#### Rising Rolls

■ Even the land of the motor car is fascinated by British opulence. Crown Prince Akhito turned up for his coronation as emperor of Japan not in a Toyota, a Nissan, nor a Honda... but a Rolls-Royce Corniche III. The car was constructed by Mulliner Park Ward, Rolls-Royce's coach-builders, to order. Is this a case of nothing but the best?

#### Luxury line

■ H.R. Owen, the dealer for exotic marques such as Ferrari, Rolls-Royce, Jaguar

and Range Rover, is opening a 24-hour sales service. As many as 500 callers can simultaneously call 0839 500835 for Rolls-Royce, 0839 500836 for Ferrari, 0839 500837 for Jaguar, and 0839 500838 for Land Rover.

■ Boy racers with the idea that they can outpace the police in a speed chase, take note. Northumbria police have taken delivery of their first Ford Sierra 4x4 RS Cosworth. The 160mph car is one of the quickest saloons on the road with 0 to 60mph acceleration of six seconds, fast enough to pass a Ferrari. Police warn that their latest acquisition will be used to catch joyriders, who have become a big problem on Tyneside.

#### Rover's return

■ The rehabilitation of Rover is complete now that George Simpson, the managing director, has won the Man of the Year award and his company has taken the prize for marketing initiatives at the *Autocar and Motor "Oscars"* this week. The British bounced back after being overtaken by the Japanese last year. Rolls-Royce was voted best specialist manufacturer and Ford best for concept design.

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Europe's women golfers see no reason to be intimidated by the Americans

## Davies is braced to bridge the gulf

FROM MITCHELL PLATTIS  
GOLF CORRESPONDENT  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA

**Laura Davies** is convinced that the thought of making history will enable Europe to overcome the chasm of experience between their team and that of the United States in the inaugural Solheim Cup, which starts on the Lake Nona course here today.

The portents are not good. The Ladies' Professional Golf Association Tour is 40 years old; the Women's Professional Golfers' European Tour a springer at 11 years. The eight American team members have between them won \$20 million and three, Pat Bradley, Nancy Lopez and Betsy King, have each won in excess of \$3 million. Not even Davies, among the Europeans, has managed to win \$1 million.

Davies, however, said: "Over the course of one year, we wouldn't have a chance. But over three days of match-play it is possible for anything to happen and I honestly believe we have a great opportunity. I know the statistics but this match isn't about money. It's about prestige and

singles on Sunday," Lopez said. "I've been down that road before in tournament golf and she recovered from one stroke behind with eight to play to beat me with some of the most impressive golf I've seen."

"Of course, I'll be ready to play Laura if that is how it comes out. We are all ready to play. We know we need to be. Everyone might be saying the Europeans are the underdogs but we can't look at it that way. We can't just stand on the first tee and think we have it won."

"And there is going to be more pressure. I've not played in anything like this since the Curtis Cup in 1976. It has a whole different concept. In the foursomes and fourballs, if you mess up then you feel embarrassed, humiliated, in front of your partner."

Davies created a little history herself when she won the US Open in 1987. It established her as one of the best players in the world. It left the Americans in awe of her. Lopez admits that is still the case.

"Quite frankly, I would not want to think of it coming down to Laura and I in the

today and the fourballs tomorrow. "We must be level or better going into the singles," Davies said.

What might help Europe is that the players feel at home on the course. "When I first stepped on it, I thought of Sunningdale," Davies said. Indeed, the course, designed by Tom Fazio, is carved through a forest of trees, including gnarled oaks, pines and cypress, in which live a myriad of wildlife. What distances it from Sunningdale is the water, with many holes receiving additional protection from the picturesque lakes.

It would be nice to share the optimistic view promoted by Davies. If they make a good start then, maybe, the match will hinge on the singles on Sunday. That in itself would be a success. The Solheim Cup is a product of the exceptional improvement made by European golfers. They should not be condemned even if they are thrashed because this match will ultimately help the development of the game.

FOURSOMES (US names first): P Bradley and N Lopez v L Davies and A Nicholas; C Neumann and M McGinnis v H Johnson and S Haskins; B Feldman and P Johnson v F Jones and D Field and H Albrechtson; B Daniel and B King v T Johnson and M-L de Lorenzi.

pressure. I think we can handle that as well as them."

"What we have to do is raise our game. We know the Americans will not shoot over par; they never do. But we have seen in the Ryder Cup how our guys produce low scores and we have to emulate them. We're the underdogs, sure, but I'm prepared to wager anyone that we will win. If we do then it will be the most important thing in my career and that includes winning the US Open."

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That is something on which Mickey Walker, the captain of Europe, has played. She has stressed in team meetings that there is no reason to feel intimidated. Walker expects that each one of her players will perform to the best of her ability. It is imperative for that to happen in the foursomes, which begin the match.

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## Loophole to beat new business rate appeals deadline

SMALL businesses that have failed to appeal against their assessment under the uniform business rate may still have a loophole available to them as the shock of next year's rates rise of up to 30 per cent sinks in (writes Rodney Hobson).

The six month appeal period lasted from the introduction of the new rating system in April.

However, Andrew Smith of Teacher Marks Deal, property consultants in King's Road, Chelsea, London, says: "There is still a mechanism by which companies can appeal in certain circumstances."

A company has to be able to prove that there has been a change of use or material change in the property or in the neighbourhood surrounding it since the revaluation in April.

Mr Smith says: "Any number of changes could have happened recently. For example, shops or offices could have been refurbished, or more space taken, or some given up. Development work could have started next door and all of these would qualify as changes allowing appeals."

He cites as possible external factors a new one-way system, the pedestrianisation of a street or the large-scale building of new offices, shops or warehouses, which could have a serious impact on relative values.

Mr Smith has handled the case of a petrol station when the road past it was changed into a dual

carriageway. Half the potential customers were trapped on the other side of the central reservation and the garage won a substantial reduction in its rates bill.

Retailers are particularly vulnerable to changes. A new shopping centre would allow retailers in other parts of a town to appeal. Even an out-of-town supermarket or retail warehouse, perhaps with a bus service from the town centre, would be grounds for appeals from existing traders.

Mr Smith says: "Once an appeal is allowed we are able to challenge the entire basis of the rates valuation." He says that most rating surveyors charge according to results, except for a small initial fee.



"Of course I'm a long established firm - this is my fourth recession."

## Weaving a web of opportunity

By RODNEY HOBSON

JASON Wright is one of the lucky few people able to make their hobby into a business.

Mr Wright, aged 20, collected moth and butterfly larvae from crops when he was a boy. Unlike most children, however, he never grew out of his hobby. "I found any type of insect fascinating," he said. Mr Wright has set up a company near Sleaford, Lincolnshire, buying and selling invertebrates. After school he rejected the idea of studying entomology, deciding that he would learn more running his business.

He felt that he did not need to know how the internal organs of a spider work in order to breed and sell them. Mr Wright said: "Within ten years I will have a large enterprise. If I had gone to college I would still have been there now."

He called his company JJE Wright and works alone. Although it has taken only six months to raise turnover to the equivalent of more than £20,000 a year, the business would not support a second person yet.

His main line is tarantulas - there are 60 types - but spiders, even those with a nasty reputation, are generally not dangerous, he said.

"Not many are poisonous. A black widow could make someone feel sick but they are not often a danger to life except for the very young and the elderly," he said. "There are quite a number of different sorts and there is one in Spain that is quite harmless. If you want poisonous spiders you can find them in Australia but it is illegal to export any from there." Customers include private collect-



Mr Wright's choice: Jason, who has turned his hobby into a business, with tarantulas

ors, zoos and schools. An adult tarantula can cost as little as £8.50 but a rarer breed may cost £65. He can sell 100 spiders of a particular type in a week. Most of the insects are imported or bought from other dealers. Mr Wright breeds his own

but it takes five years for a spider to become an adult. The female spider's propensity to eat the amorous male depicts stocks, but she produces up to 300 offspring at a time and a breeder does not lose many. Mr Wright fears that

environmental concerns could lead to a ban on collecting wild creatures but he believes the breeding rate of spiders is such that hundreds could be taken from a small area without wiping them out.

### BRIEFINGS

■ THE Australian government wants to entice Britons in small businesses to migrate, bringing with them their capital and expertise. The attractions of sun, surf and open spaces are being highlighted by the Australian High Commission, which says that, on average, for every person settling in Australia through the Business Migration Program (BMP), six Australian jobs are created. Australia wants people who will establish ventures that will help to reduce imports and increase exports, create jobs for Australians and boost technological innovation. In return, a spokesman says, Australia offers a launching pad to the expanding Asia-Pacific markets. Economic factors are not the main attraction. "The sort of people we attract are in their late thirties to early forties who are sick of commuting and want to get away from crowds. They have succeeded in their own businesses and are looking for new challenges, perhaps in a different line. They want a stable political environment where their children can grow up and the family can enjoy a good lifestyle." How much does it cost? Each case is assessed on its merits, but as a rule of thumb, people aged under 40 need to have £150,000 to start their business, and those aged more than 40 need £250,000, plus £60,000 to buy a house. A business migration adviser day is to be held tomorrow at the Australian High Commission, Australia House, The Strand, WC2. More information: 071-438 6722.

■ An average of 100 businesses a day have been created over the past ten years, figures released by the Department of Employment show. An estimated 87,000 extra businesses were registered for VAT on 1989 alone.

■ Woodhead-Faulkner, a publisher in Cambridge, has produced *A Guide to European Financial Centres*, with information on the workings of markets in 17 countries, current trends and significant developments. It costs £65. Contact: 0223 66733.

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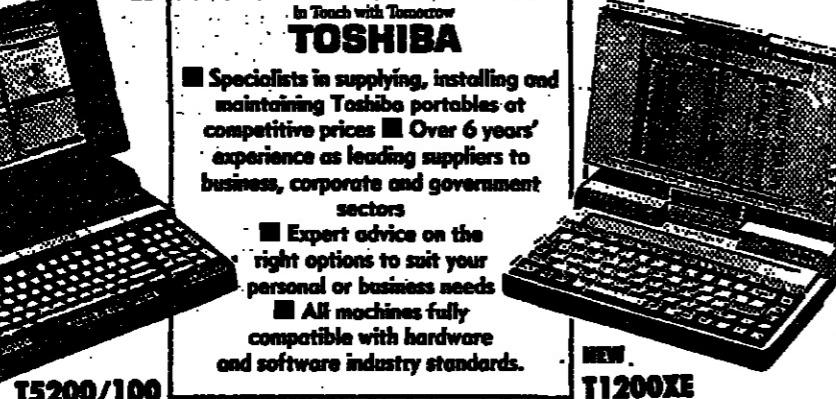
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## CRICKET

# Australia's reserve players proffer a lesson in diligence

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, HOBART

**IN AUSTRALIA**, far more than in any other country, the approach of a Test series is a ubiquitous roll of drums, a soap opera on the national network. When the opposition is England, the drums beat louder and the characters assume still higher household profiles.

We are well into the opening episode of this particular "soap" and the melodrama is already being spread thickly. Eliminating Graham Gooch from the England cast seems, to most Australians, like writing Jason Donovan out of *Neighbours*. They just do not believe in it anymore. Australia will win, they say, with something to spare and their attitude towards the poor old English stops out just short of feeling sorry for them, which would never do.

It is traditionally about now, a week away from the opening Test match, that these opinions of barmaids, taxi drivers and hotel porters, which have been forced to the touring team since arrival, are superseded by the profundities of "those who should know", a legion of charismatic former players who have found their way into one branch or another of the media.

One of the first to offer his thoughts this time is Greg Chappell, now without an official role with the Australian side after a long career as captain and a shorter one as chairman of selectors. Chappell's overview is as confident as that of the taxi drivers. "If Australia play to potential,

they should win comfortably. If you line the teams up on a man-to-man basis, England do not rate nearly as highly."

Chappell, however, is nothing if not shrewd and needs no reminding that factors other than mere ability can shift the balance of a Test series. One such factor is team spirit.

"During one of the closing seasons of my career," Chappell says, "I spoke to Rod Marsh about the fact that, for ten years, I had spent more time with him than with my wife. We agreed at that stage to know each other better than our wives did."

This was the first day on tour when the international feel was apparent because, although Australia's side is packed with fringe Test players, they are running the game on Test match lines. It was a day of visual sparring and unavoidable comparisons, in which England will not have emerged favourably. It is all about appearances, and psychology, and feeling comfortable together.

Lamb himself was not only present at practice but usefully employed, bating at length against spin bowlers, his weakness, in an individual test. Full marks to him for this, but a pity that psychological high ground should have been conceded at this sensitive stage of the tour.

If the taxi driver, the barman and Chappell are to be proved wrong, England must constantly create the right impression, both with the opposition and in their own minds, about their commitment to the cause.

Chappell's untimely confinement in an Adelaide hospital has shifted this burden onto Lamb who, himself, has an unquenchable spirit. Being a man of energy and action, however, he expects others to share his attitude, rather than having Gooch's ability to impart it in the weeks to come, could be a critical distinction.

## YACHTING

## Dickson wins all his races

BY BOB ROSS

**CHRIS DICKSON**, the world champion from New Zealand, who works in Japan with the Nippon Challenge America's Cup syndicate, and Peter Gilmore, of Australia, won all four of their races on the first day of the Nippon Cup match-racing series sailed off Hayama Marina Yacht Club, Japan, yesterday.

Next best in the round-robin elimination series were Eddie Warden Owen, of Britain, Lawrence Mead (Hong Kong) and Makoto Nambu (Japan), each with two wins.

The races were sailed in light offshore winds. Dickson beat Toshiro Toya (Japan), Peter Isler (United States), and Owen and Russell Courts (New Zealand). Gilmore beat Isler, Toya, Owen and Courts. The remaining three races of the round robin will be completed today, the semi-finals and final at the weekend.

At the close of entries yesterday, the fleet for this year's Nor' Tel Sydney-to-Hobart race totalled 117, nine fewer than last year, and given Australia's depressed economy, surprisingly large.

Favoured to be first into Hobart is the British maxi Kotham, skippered by Lynne Smith and with most of the crew on board that drove her to fourth place in the 1989-90 Whitbread a round-the-world race. She arrived in Sydney by ship yesterday, with plenty of time for training and tuning before the Hobart start on December 26.

A British crew, headed by Ian Hornsey and Peter Wheeler, has chartered for the Race Beyond Thunderdome, the Laura Davidson-designed One Tonner that sailed for the winning United Kingdom team in last year's Nor' Tel Southern Cross Cup series.

## TODAY'S FIXTURES

**FOOTBALL**  
SHIRKOPH IRISH LEAGUE: Bangor v Llanelly (7.45); Shireburn v Sharrow Rovers (7.45).

**RUGBY UNION**  
TOUR MATCHES: Pau v Gymnase y Eguilles (1.30); Stade Francais v RCN (7.45); Club Match: Clermont-Ferrand v Castres (7.15).

**RUGBY LEAGUE**  
YORKSHIRE SENIOR CUP: First Division Northern v Hull (8.0); Second Division: Bradford v Castleford; Third Division: Hull KR v Halifax; Leeds v Warrington Trinity; Oldham v Salford; St Helens v St. Helens (8.0).

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## STUDENT SPORT

## Backs ensure title goes to Swansea

BY MARK HERBERT

The result completed a clean sweep for Loughborough in qualification matches for the five main outdoor winter titles. The footballers won 2-0, Sion Thomas finding the net in each half; the women's hockey team won 7-1, Tanis Liddell scoring five, and the men triumphed 5-0, including a Rob Madsley double and the netball players edged through 23-18.

• The British Universities netball team to face its Australian counterparts in two internationals has been named. The squad is based heavily on Irish players with four full internationals — Cathy Harvey, Joanne Skehin, Edie Kelly and Jenny Bradley — from County, plus Siân Jenkins, the Welsh international.

The Australians start their tour today at Swansea against the full Welsh team plus British Colleges.

**BRITISH UNIVERSITIES SQUAD:** C Harvey (Oxon); S Jenkins (Cardiff); J Bradley (Ulster); C Parsons (Sheffield); J Liddell (Loughborough); E Kelly (Ulster); J Bradley (Ulster); G Norton (Lancaster); M Dodd (Queen's Belfast); M Dobney (Ulster).

## SNOOKER

## Hendry the favourite

**STEPHEN HENDRY**, the world champion, is favourite to retain the Stormseal United Kingdom championship which begins today at The Guild Hall, Preston. The events end on December 2, when the winner will collect a prize of £100,000.

Hendry, aged 21, begins his defence with a match with a third round, best of 17 frames match against Tony Wilson.

Should Hendry win the UK championship he will stretch his record of having won successive ranking titles to five. It is hard to

see who can stop him. John Parrott, the world No. 3, was the last man to beat him in a ranking event, in the final of the European Open in Lyon last March. Since then, Hendry has gone undefeated for 25 games in ranking tournament matches.

**EUROPEAN ORDER OF PLAY:** That round robin starts on Friday, Dec 7, D'Onys (Spa) v A Chalco (Spain); W Thorne (Eng) v N Dyer (Eng); M Hellebaut (Belgium) v C Pocock (Eng); J. Llorente (Spain) v G Norton (Lancaster); M. Dodd (Eng); A Knowles (Eng) v R Williams (Eng).

**SPORT ON TV**

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: 14.30-16.00: Paul 42; RSS 16.30-18.00: Football League; ScreenSport 0.00-22.30 (tomorrow); College match: Tennessee v Mississippi (7.30).

SWIMMING: Commonwealth winter championships (Covey Sports Centre, 2.30).

NETBALL: Texaco women's Challenge (Sweden).

**JUDO**: European 19.00-19.30: Highlights of the European Championships.

**ICE SKATING**: European 10.00-11.30 and 18.30-20.00: World Cup.

**SWIMMING**: Commonwealth Games 12.30-13.30 and 17.00-18.00: Highlights of the Pororo Cup and European relay races.

**SNOWBOARDING**: ScreenSport 12.30-13.30 and 19.00-20.00: Highlights of the Pororo Cup and European relay races.

**NETBALL**: ScreenSport 0.00-09.30; RSS 13.30-14.00 and 20.30-01.00 (tomorrow); Racing news.

**SPORT ON FRIDAY:** EBC2 14.15-16.00: Racing; 2.45, 3.10 and 3.40 from Assoc. 18.30-19.00: National Winter Championships from Country.

**SPORTS**: ScreenSport 18.30-19.30, 22.30 and midnight.

**NETBALL**: ScreenSport 0.00-09.30; RSS 13.30-14.00 and 20.30-01.00 (tomorrow); Racing news.

**NETBALL**: ScreenSport 18.30-19.30 and 22.30-01.00: Highlights of the Dutch indoor tournaments from The Hague.

**NETBALL**: ScreenSport 0.00-09.30; RSS 13.30-14.00 and 20.30-01.00: Highlights of the British Open from Nottingham and Women's tour from New Mexico.

**NETBALL**: ScreenSport 11.30-12.30: The 50th World Cup from North America.

**NETBALL**: ScreenSport 12.30-13.30: Highlights of the Club Masters from Japan.

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**NETBALL</**

# Weights favour Sabin Du Loir

By MANDARIN (MICHAEL PHILLIPS)

RUNNERS are thin on the ground at Ascot today because of the firm ground, but the consolation is that Morley Street and Sabin Du Loir have both been declared for the Racial Hurdle.

Morley Street excelled when winning the Sandeman Hurdle over today's trip at Liverpool last season and this autumn he captured the Breeders' Cup Chase at Belmont Park after narrowly beating the 1989 St Leger winner, Michelozzo, in a preparatory race on the Flat at Goodwood.

Toby Balding's six-year-old should have no difficulty in reverting to hurdling this afternoon because American fences and British hurdles basically require the same technique.

Yet I doubt his ability to concede 10lb to Sabin Du Loir, who won the corresponding race in 1987 and 1988. On reflection, he could not have been right when he went for the treble 12 months ago because he was beaten 31 lengths into fourth place after drifting ominously in the market from 2-1 on to 6-5 on... However, Sabin Du Loir has shown himself to be in form this autumn, albeit over fences when accounting for none other than Desert Orchid by six lengths at level weights at Devon and Exeter.

Useful horses that Brabe-

Towcester, and Kempston, Deerness Spook was still very much in contention when he fell at Chepstow last time.

Babil, who was most impressive when scoring at Newbury at the end of last month, is taken to defy top weight in the Lion Gate Handicap Hurdle.

At Ayr, I will be looking to Mary Reaveley's versatile mare, Broome Grey, to win the Lang Whang Hurdle for the second time following that sound effort against Battalion at Wetherby 13 days ago.

The Kincorthie Intermediate Handicap Chase will go to Beauford, who managed to beat Young Snug at Liverpool in the spring when all the conditions favoured the latter.

For the day's best bet, though, I nominate Better Times Ahead, who stands out in the EBF Novices' Hurdle Times Ahead, who stands out in the EBF Novices' Hurdle Qualifier on the strength of that victory at Wetherby a fortnight ago when, making his season debut, he easily dealt with Mr Woodcock, who had already won twice.

Finally, it is no surprise to see David Nicholson running Deadly Charm in the Alexis Barley Handicap Hurdle at Huntingdon so soon after that stout effort against Stratford Ponds at Cheltenham on Friday. She may never be as well handicapped again as she is here, even with top weight.



Mr Frisk, the Grand National winner, who tries to win the Punch Bowl Amateur Riders' Handicap Chase for the third year in succession at Ascot today

For Fame suffering a near-fatal injury and Sangamore, the French Derby winner, being held up by firm ground.

Plans for the pair have been shrouded in doubt this autumn but Charlton said yesterday: "Both horses remain in training for a perfect start to the weekend for his trainer, Tim Thomson Jones, who is getting married tomorrow.

After winning at Taunton, the pair headed to the Jockey Club Stakes at Newmarket.

However, Teesmo, the 1983 Derby winner, had a far more successful four-year-old campaign, winning three of his four races, including the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes.

• To-Agor-Mou, who gave Guy Harwood his first classic win in the 1980 2,000 Guineas, has died at the age of 12 in the United States. The son of Tudor Music, he was bred and trained for his battles with King's Lane in the Irish 2,000 Guineas, the St. James's Palace Stakes and the Sussex Stakes.

Naturally, I'm very pleased. The horses will continue walking exercise until at least the New Year and will then resume normal training.

Skip Anchor ran only once as a four-year-old, finishing second

to Phardance in the Jockey Club Stakes at Newmarket.

THERE will be a big British presence at Milan today when Candy Glen (Nigel Day), Silvestro (Michael Roberts), Zoman (Richard Quinn) and Totem (Gary Carter) contest Italy's top end-of-season mile race, the £52,790 group one Premio Vittorio di Capua.

Lester Piggott has five rides at the meeting including Ignais in the Premio Vittorio di Capua.

• Silk Petal (Willie Carson) and Philharmonia (Michael Hills) run the £19,293 group three Prix de Flore (1m 2f) at Saint-Cloud today.

• Abydar, one of the world's leading sires, was put down at Calumet Farm in Lexington, Kentucky, yesterday after breaking his leg on Tuesday.

In the £19,359 listed Premio

## Commons enquiry to put levy system under microscope

By RICHARD EVANS

RACING'S leaders are preparing to argue in favour of fundamental changes to the levy system of funding the sport at an enquiry conducted next year by the Commons home affairs select committee.

Lord Heseltine and Chris-

tope, former senior steward and chief executive of the Jockey Club, are known to be unhappy with the existing levy structure and will probably call for powerful backing from senior Levy Board figures, including Sir Ian Trehewa, the outgoing chairman who, privately, is highly critical of the 1960s-style system.

While industry leaders are concerned that racing does not get a proper financial return for its product via levy on betting turnover, they are also disillusioned with the legislative structure of the levy machinery, particularly the framework for annual negotiations with bookmakers over each year's levy scheme.

The content has been highlighted by increasingly anomalous take-backs the two sides in recent years.

The industry's concerns and calls for reform are likely to be in stark contrast to evidence submitted by bookmakers to the all-party group of MPs.

Tom Kelly, director-general of the Betting Office Licences Association, said: "We believe that the levy as it is at present is of great benefit to racing and that nothing should be done to seriously undermine or seriously change the structure."

"If it came to a situation in which the levy was going to be removed, even if we were replaced by some other mechanism, racing would be well advised to stand back and consider very carefully."

Tristram Riches, chief executive of the Levy Board, said:

"We do not yet know the scope of the enquiry. We understand we shall be invited very shortly to submit evidence by the middle of January."

Racing is expected to receive £41.53 million next year from levy on betting turnover of £4.54 billion. This compares to racing's needs of £84 million, as calculated by the Jockey Club and Horseracing Advisory Council.

The MPs' investigation, chaired by Sir John Wheeler, Conservative MP for Westminister North, will give Sir John Sparrow, Levy Board chairman from January 1, an ideal opportunity to state his views on the levy.

"I had intended to have runners on both days," the Conservative trainer said last night, "but I have been totally misinformed about the state of the ground."

"It's not the going which is my bone of contention, it's the disgraceful lack of maintenance to the course and the grass. After I went to the Ascot sales back in July, I walked the course and thought at the time what a terrible state it was in. Now I have unfortunately been proved right."

Riches' principal runners were to have been Al Hashmi in the H & T Walker Gold Cup and Waterloo Boy in the Manacou Chase. Waterloo Boy will now be sent to Haydock Park on Wednesday, for the Standard Life Handicap Chase.

The horse's business is very annoying especially at a track which I had once considered to be the second best in the country for jumping behind Cheltenham," Riches added. "It has cost my owners over £700 in entry fees."

Al Hashmi, Espy, Oketee and Antinous, who runs at Ayr today, were all taken out of action yesterday on the Ascot racecourse.

LATEST BETTING: CORNEL 3-MULLEN IN PENCE with a run; 7-2 COMANCHE, FUD SWING, 4-1 BIZING WALKER, 7-1 CASHMERE KING, WEED GUNNER, 7-1 BIZING WALKER, 5-1 BIZING WALKER, FULL SWING, 8-1 CASHMERE KING, 10-1 WORK GUNNER.

## Nicholson critical of Ascot course

By CHRISTOPHER GOULDING

DAVID Nicholson yesterday launched a scathing attack on the state of the course at Ascot, where the valuable two-day November meeting gets underway today with a total of just 26 runners in the six races.

"I had intended to have runners on both days," the Conservative trainer said last night, "but I have been totally misinformed about the state of the ground."

"It's not the going which is the disgraceful lack of maintenance to the course and the grass. After I went to the Ascot sales back in July, I walked the course and thought at the time what a terrible state it was in. Now I have unfortunately been proved right."

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## Piggott shows his skill twice

LESTER Piggott's riding skills twice delighted Italian racers at the seaside course of Livorno in Tuscany yesterday.

Piggott won the five-furlong Premio Sedan on Ghilleo Due by half a length and also excelled on Kathleen in the Premio Giornale Galoppo e Trotto.

As he left the stalls, an iron snapper but Piggott managed to stay in the saddle and steer his mount round the two bends of the 7½-furlong race.

The report, carried out by National Economic Research Associates (Nera), outlines the effect of decreasing or increasing betting duty, which currently stands at 2 per cent.

There is a strong case for a reduction in betting duty when one looks at the overall health of the industry allied to what would happen to government revenue if there was a decrease," Kelly said yesterday.

"Nera came to the conclusion that the industry is going to have a fairly hard time over the next two or three years. There will be a lot of pressure on the number of betting offices. Any significant decline has repercussions, including social ones. It cannot be in the interests of the government to allow that to happen."

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# SPORT

## Salutary experiences for Gascoigne

By STUART JONES  
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

The ludicrous hype surrounding Paul Gascoigne has been punctured by the actions of two managers within the last fortnight. Kenny Dalglish and Graham Taylor have in their own ways made a mockery of those who have laughably bracketed the 23-year-old with George Best.

Dalglish, in determining that Gascoigne would not play effectively for Tottenham Hotspur against Liverpool, and Taylor, in deciding that he should not play at all for England against the Republic of Ireland, have publicly exposed his deficiencies. He cannot be regarded as complete an individual as even one of his own contemporaries, David Platt.

Dalglish illustrated how in-

effective Gascoigne can be when he is closely guarded. Marked by Burrows, his contribution was negligible against Liverpool and Jack Charlton would doubtless have employed the same tactic with McGrath in the destructive role, in Dublin.

Taylor foresaw that Gascoigne, as well as being a potentially irrelevant figure amid that midfield turmoil, might become a liability because of his frustration. With his fragile temperament, he cannot always resist the temptation to lash out or to launch himself with reckless ferocity into two-footed tackles.

England did not need to take any agents provocateurs into Lansdowne Road, which was predictably converted into a war zone. "The Irish like a battle," Taylor said yesterday, "and it is not

always the best plan to give them what they want."

Yet England's survival in the European championship qualifying tie depended on their ability to defend themselves against the most direct football ever played on the international stage.

"You know what they are going to do but how do you stop them doing it?" Taylor asked. The question has been posed 22 times by managers who have visited the Republic over the last four and a half years and none has found a convincing answer.

The measures which Taylor chose to take were protective rather than preventative. Adams was brought in to replace the diminutive Parker, for instance, "because he could cope better with the aerial bombardment", and the midfield was filled with men of steel who could "handle the

onslaught".

Taylor could offer no reassurance that he will necessarily alter the policy for the return fixture at Wembley in March. He would say only that the same grit, determination, hard work and strong will, "the characteristics which carried England to the edge of an improbable victory," must be put to good use.

Since Gascoigne is not renowned for such early maturity, he may again be left out. Moreover, Taylor is concerned that the youngster is being distracted by his public engagements. "It is hard to believe that they would not affect any 23-year-old but that is out of my control."

Platt may not yet have been

fated in Downing Street or been invited to make a record but he is quietly establishing a more substantial reputation.

In Taylor's opinion, Adams,

were the other two of strength but Platt also provided the two lasting memories of an otherwise thoroughly undistinguished game which was buffeted by gale-force winds. They illustrated his stamina, which matches that of Bryan Robson, and his intelligence.

The first was his goal.

Moments after flicking a header on to Lineker on the

halfway line, he was 50 yards away and accelerating towards the far post as Dixon's cross arrived. The second was perhaps less momentous for television viewers but it was equally significant.

Only a few minutes re-

mained when Ireland won a throw in deep in their own territory. Platt, though run-

ning on tired legs across the ruted and sodden turf, recog-

nised that another attack

might be propelled from the boot of Bonner and he

sprinted some 40 yards to cut off the source.

Gascoigne is at times a charming entertainer but he was once described as being as deaf as a brush by Bobby Robson. He is unlikely ever to acquire the tactical awareness of Platt. No one should doubt

which of the two promises to play a more consistent part in England's immediate future.

McMahon, Pearce and Wright

## Only Haynes holds out with century

From JOHN WOODCOCK IN KARACHI

WEST Indies batted no more convincingly than England's cricketers might have been expected to do when making 237 for eight on the opening day of the first of their three Test matches against Pakistan. Only Desmond Haynes, captaining them in the absence of Vivian Richards, was able to cope with the subtlety of the Pakistani wrist spinners or the speed and accuracy of Wasim Younis.

Only the size of the crowd was a disappointment to the Pakistanis, the ground being almost deserted. The fielding was tidy and the bowling, after Pakistan had lost the toss, a joy to watch. Of Haynes's 15 Test hundreds, none can have been harder earned. It was his third in successive Tests, following his 109 against England in Barbados and 167 against them in Antigua. He gave a none-too-difficult return chance to Mushtaq Ahmed when he was 78, mis-hitting a drive, and was dropped at the wicket off Younis when he was 92. These mistakes apart, there was no faulting him.

News of Younis's five for 68 will be of comfort to the New Zealanders, whom he so humbled recently. I know now why Alec Bedser told the Surrey bowlers last season that it was from watching Waqar's line and, even more, his length that they have most to learn. The way he pitched the ball up yesterday, and kept the batsmen playing, was quite as impressive as his speed. Strong and athletic, he has a distinct look of Daley Thompson. There is, of course, no way he can maintain his striking rate — 34 Test wickets in 162.5 overs this winter — but for the moment, anyway, you need to be in top form to keep him out.

Not since the late 1970s, I suppose, had a West Indian captain tossed up at the start of a Test series with his side as anything other than firm favourites to win it. But West Indies must, in fact, have been the outsiders now, and by lunch it was obvious why. Even on a pitch with as little bounce as this one, West Indies were ill at ease once the spinners came on, on the

WEST INDIES First innings

C G Greenidge bow Younis 3

R B Richardson v Younis 1

C A Steel c Younis b Mushtaq 1

G L Hooper bow Younis 8

D C Wharf c Younis b Younis 25

P L J Duyn c Majeed b Younis 17

M D Marshall bow Younis 13

C E Lamb bow Younis 2

I R Botham bow Younis 1

Extras (b 8, lb 4, nb 7) 17

Total 81 wickets 237

C A Waugh to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-77, 3-61, 4-68,

5-151, 6-178, 7-200, 8-204.

SCORING: Alman 13-1-51-1 (65); Younis 10-1-62-1 (62); Mushtaq 18-3-81-2.

Pakistan: Shoaib Mohammad, Ramiz Raja, Zahid Faizal, Salim Malik, Javed Miandad, Asif Iqbal, Imran Khan, Wasim Akram, Abdul Qadir, Mushtaq Ahmed, Waqar Younis.

Umpires: Khizar Hayat and Riazuddin.

## Board to consider lifting the covers

By RICHARD STREETON

A PROPOSAL for the Britannic Assurance championship to be played on uncovered pitches for three years is on the agenda for the meeting of the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) next month.

Derbyshire, Kent, Northamptonshire and Yorkshire have put their names to a suggestion that pitches should be uncovered from start to finish, including overnight. The move will be resisted by both the board's England and cricket committees, and would also be against the wishes of most county captains.

The subject has been a perennial topic in English cricket. Other than one experimental season in 1959, pitches were mostly uncovered until 1981. In 1987, there was a one-year "compromise" return to uncovered pitches, which were left unprotected during the hours of play. Bowlers' run-ups were still covered.

Under the new proposal, the bowlers' run-ups will be left uncovered. That will, however, be a six to eight-foot area at each end, either side of the stumps, protecting the bowlers' footfalls.

• Kevin Curran, Northamptonshire's new signing, has been fined £250 by the TCCB disciplinary committee for making derogatory comments in a newspaper interview last month.

• The TCCB has turned down Gloucestershire's attempt to sign Stephen Wundke, an all-rounder from Australia, because he does not have the residential qualifications required.

England prepare, page 38

## Wigan told capacity may be cut

WIGAN, England's best supported rugby league club, has been told that unless essential safety work is carried out immediately at Central Park the crowd capacity will be cut to 12,000 and all matches will be made all-ticket (Keith Macklin writes).

This is a severe blow to the club, which is spending £1.4 million on a new grandstand. Its average attendance is about 14,000, and for special fixtures can reach 25,000.

Officers of the local metropolitan council will insist at emergency talks on Monday that unless Wigan guarantees to carry out extensive repair work, the Douglass stand will be closed. The council's public protection committee is seeking more electronic turnstiles connected to police control, an emergency exit, and a safety barrier at the top end.

Three years ago, Douglass severed a contract with the ETFA after a disagreement with the chairman who had done much to improve the game's financial fortunes.

After it, his form clearly suffered and he lost his England No 1 place for the first time in seven years. Further protracted dispute for Douglass, at the age of 35, would surely endanger the career of the most successful English player of modern times.

## Douglas in contract dispute

By RICHARD EATON

DESMOND Douglas, 11 times the English national table tennis champion, and John Prean, the chairman of the English Table Tennis Association (ETTA), are likely to clash over letter of employment conditions from the association which the player has refused to sign. Instead, Douglas has made strong criticisms of the ETIA through his solicitor, Paul Smith.

A statement from Smith says: "There are ten paragraphs said to be conditions, requiring the player to comply with terms which he finds are restrictive. Basically it is a gagging document, and which alleges hundreds of reasonable words are ignored by the press while unfavourable sentences are given prominence and distorted. The paragraph also states that players should not make statements that make the association look second-rate."

Prean might also point out that other leading players have signed the employment con-

ditions. Against that, Douglas may argue he has the sympathy of other leading players, most of whom signed a note handed to the chairman just before the European championships in April, stating the player's lack of confidence in the management committee and refusing to discuss important matters individually, except through a representative. Witnesses do claim this note was handed personally to Prean, although yesterday the chairman denied having received it.

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After it, his form clearly suffered and he lost his England No 1 place for the first time in seven years. Further protracted dispute for Douglass, at the age of 35, would surely endanger the career of the most successful English player of modern times.

## Early warning on Twickenham ticket famine

ENGLISH rugby union followers are unlikely to have direct access to much more than 17,000 tickets for the World Cup final at Twickenham on November 2 next year. Given the weight of demand for tickets for England's home internationals at any time, figures released this week serve to emphasise how short will be the supply. But even so, England supporters will be well-compared with visitors from other countries.

Capacity at the stadium will be slightly short of 59,000 and the Rugby Football Union (RFU) is already warning its clubs of the shortfall. The match programme for this month's game against Argentina (which attracted 55,100) included the following message: "The

knockout stages of the tournament and the final is likely to result in maximum allocations of only two or three tickets per club. Regrettably, no tickets will remain for other applicants . . . unfortunately, disappointment for many thousands of spectators is unavoidable."

It is a moot point whether the ground should have been hired to Rugby World Cup (RWC) complete with 5,000 debenture holders; nonetheless, agreement has been reached which guarantees the debenture seats as well as the use by the RFU of the majority of the 94 hospitality boxes which will exist by then and the RFU president's room in the West Stand. The RWC has accepted our ground in the knowledge that we have certain commitments," Dudley Wood, the RFU secretary, said yesterday.

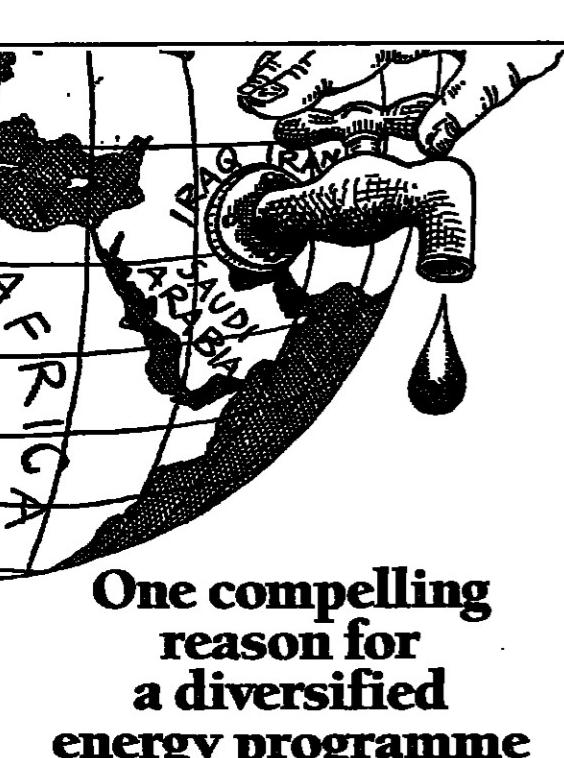
The union has not yet received official figures for tickets it will be able to sell at a meeting on December 11 of the five nations due to finalise this situation. England has fewer debenture holders than the other home unions and has sold those seats on the basis of access to tickets for all internationals at Twickenham. Hospitality boxes have also been sold, on a three-year lease, under the same conditions, even though the World Cup does not come under the RFU's aegis and is not, in that

sense, theirs to sell. The union will, I understand, receive some 10,500 additional tickets for the use of the ground and a further 6,000 as host union for the final. Should England reach that final, a further 1,000 tickets will be made available. Taken with the debenture holders, that gives the RFU access to around 40 per cent of the tickets.

There will be 4,500 hospitality packages sold by CPMA, the commercial advisers to Rugby World Cup, as part of the various sponsorship agreements, although it is hoped to put together reduced-price packages for groups of rugby enthusiasts.

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## Waverers braced for a weekend of canvassing and consulting



Stansfeld: every MP has made up his mind

By SHEILA GUNN  
POLITICAL REPORTER

CONSERVATIVE MPs who have not signed up publicly or covertly to Margaret Thatcher or Michael Heseltine by now will spend a weekend of canvassing, consulting and mulling over their fate under the leadership of either contestant.

There is much talk among the "wavers" about listening to the views of local activists, but they are likely to be influenced as much by the strange ballot being performed by the key players over the next four days.

Many of the "don't knows" are "won't tell", with a band of Heseltine supporters suspected of keeping quiet because of demands from their constituency

officials to back Mrs Thatcher. To muddy the waters even further some MPs admit privately to hedging their bets by promising undying loyalty to both camps. Behind the cover of a secret ballot, the number of Tory MPs who will claim next Wednesday to have picked the winner is expected greatly to exceed the number that voted.

After Sir Geoffrey Howe's appeal in his Commons speech for a European vision for the "young people of today", echoed by many elderly Conservative peers, MPs report greater backing among their younger constituents for Michael Heseltine than from older party workers.

During the past few days MPs have relied mostly on telephone

calls from their agents to gauge the reaction in their constituencies to the leadership challenge. This weekend gives them the chance to widen their canvassing and to tap constituents' views before making a final decision.

Robert Rhodes James, who is standing down as MP for Cambridge at the next election, said yesterday: "I will talk to my officers and my successor Mark Bishop. On Saturday morning I will talk to real people, walking around the market place, popping into the odd pub and I will ring up certain people whose opinions I value."

Ivor Stansfeld, MP for Orpington, said: "In my opinion every MP has made up his mind

but they feel inhibited by their constituency associations. I prepared the ground by speaking to the officers of my association and finding to my pleasant surprise that at least they are sympathetic to my views that it's time for a change."

Neil Thorne, MP for Ilford South, and he was looking for a change of style by Mrs Thatcher. "I have been very loyal to the prime minister since I worked as her personal assistant in 1974," he said. "My interpretation is that the general public are looking for a change of style, not necessarily a change of leader. If that is correct I believe there is no reason why she would not be able to carry on. I am looking myself for a change of style." He also

thought that the perpetual pursuit of reforms that caused political indigestion was a result of Mrs Thatcher's fear that she would be accused of running out of steam after more than 11 years in office.

Mr Thorne added: "The prime minister has also made the mistake of not elevating people to the peerage when they have completed their usefulness as minister. So on her backbenches there are a large number of people who are discontented and a large number of wives who think their husbands have been cheated out of high office."

"After 11 years it must be very difficult to maintain popularity among people whom she has had to displace."



Rhodes James: will talk to "real people"

## Heseltine camp hits back over claims of 5p tax increase

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

MICHAEL Heseltine and his supporters hit back yesterday at claims by the Thatcher camp that his proposals on poll tax would mean increases in income tax of up to 5p in the pound.

Mr Heseltine's supporters said yesterday that it was totally wrong to talk about 5p tax increases, and accused the prime minister's supporters of using "phony figures". In a speech in Scotland meanwhile Mr Heseltine said that the poll tax on its own was capable of losing the election for the Conservative party. It was a matter of the cabinet changing its priorities.

Michael Forsyth, the Scottish minister, in a letter to his constituency chairman, quoted a speech by Mr Heseltine only two years ago in which he criticised the idea of shifting expenditure from local authorities to central government and said the commensurate savings in local authority expenditure were never made. That, Mr Forsyth said, was an example of why he would be voting for Mrs Thatcher's consistent approach.

The arguments over poll tax and what can be done to reform it have become the centrepiece of Mr Heseltine's campaign to persuade

John Major, the Chancellor,

## They seek him here, they seek him there

By KERRY GILL

ON THE second day of his visit to Scotland, the would-be leader of the Conservative party proved to be unusually coy. Panic spread early among the press corps when no sighting was made of Michael Heseltine.

Even Cecil Parkinson, the transport secretary, who arrived in windswept Glasgow yesterday to declare his support for Mrs Thatcher, was asked where the former defence secretary was. He said he had no idea. By lunchtime a horde of pressmen were subjected to furious demands from their news editors, but still nobody knew exactly where he was.

It is believed that Mr Heseltine left the city's Holiday Inn and dashed to a secret rendezvous at an Edinburgh restaurant. Here, it is said, he assessed his support among Scottish MPs with at least one local newspaper editor in attendance.

Shortly after 3.30pm Mr Heseltine surfaced in the Victorian Lanark Memorial Hall to address a rally in support of Carol Goodman, the local Tory candidate. To the reporters' disgust, it was mostly the same old stuff about Scotland's rosy future under another Conservative government. There wasn't even the diversion of the heckling seen at Paisley the previous evening, just polite applause from the solid Tory countryfolk.

Most of the 200 people looked

had recently announced public spending of about £200 billion a year and predicted a growth in the economy of about 2 per cent a year, providing about £4 billion a year of extra real-term resources.

The Heseltine camp said Mr Heseltine's scheme for poll tax reform, which he would put to the cabinet to consider, was based on one put to Mrs Thatcher's cabinet by Sir Keith Joseph in 1982. It involved the state taking over 75 per cent of educational spending, with tight restrictions on local authorities' ability to spend the money on anything else. The ultimate goal would be to move towards what Mrs Thatcher herself sought, more specialisation by opted-out schools.

As for the finance required, there would be a saving of the £4 billion being poured into exemptions and rebates on the poll tax, quite apart from what could be spared from economic growth.

John MacGregor, the leader of the Commons, said there was nothing new in Mr Heseltine's proposals. Both he and Mr Major insisted that if education expenditure was taken off the community charge then either taxes would have to be increased or there would be less to spend on health, law and order and defence.

Mr MacGregor said that with the tax increase option "the danger is that you will simply increase the combined burden on the tax and community charge payer". He added: "Experience suggests that local authorities would not reduce their community charge by the same amounts as would be financed from central taxation but would surreptitiously increase their own spending."

Heseltine profile, page 16  
Dairy, page 16  
Leading article, page 11  
Letters, page 11



Mr Heseltine in Luton yesterday, where he criticised people who sought to "cloud the issue"

## Americans slow to realise something's up

From MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

FOR 11 turbulent years Margaret Thatcher has been America's most stalwart ally. At the risk of being called the White House poodle, she has nurtured and cherished the "special relationship" above all others. After the bombing of Libya, during the invasions of Grenada and Panama, and now in Washington, said Brad Roberts, editor of *Washington Quarterly*, "there's an underlying complacency that this is not a serious threat to her".

By yesterday the administration was finally beginning to realise that the Iron Lady was not, in fact, invincible. Another official admitted: "It's taken quite a while for the realisation to set in that there's something going on." Michael Heseltine is portrayed in Ameri-

can papers as a dashing, ambitious millionaire with a taste for the flamboyant gesture, but there is nothing he has said or done which sets alarm bells ringing here. What is starting to concern officials is the possible loss of Mrs Thatcher at the height of the Gulf emergency.

President Bush, somewhat distant in his early relations with the prime minister, has come to depend heavily on her support since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, and her stock with him has never been higher. Although Mr Heseltine has promised no change in Britain's Gulf policy, the administration would not expect the same robust and outspoken rhetoric. Her loss at this time would be

"distressing", one official said. "Mrs Thatcher's unqualified and strong support and leadership in response to the Gulf crisis would be a major factor in any evaluation of her current situation," another said.

Beyond that, many independent experts believe Mr Heseltine's ascendancy would actually remove a source of increasing friction between Washington and London, which is Mrs Thatcher's hostility to closer European integration. Jacqueline Davis, executive vice-president at the Institute for Foreign Policy Analysis, said: "She's making a grave mistake on the European Community and in her attitude to European integration."

### Saatchi verdict

A television advertising expert yesterday gave Michael Heseltine the edge for Tuesday's election. Hugh Imrie, head of corporate communications at Saatchi & Saatchi, which in the past has helped Mrs Thatcher to election victory, believes that Mr Heseltine could win on the strength of his television appearances. Ken MacKinnon, principal lecturer in media studies at North London Polytechnic, also believes that Mr Heseltine has public appeal.

## MPs say Times poll will affect contest dramatically

By ROBIN OAKLEY

MPs AGREED yesterday that the Mori poll carried in all but the earliest editions of *The Times* could have a crucial impact on the leadership election.

Waiving Tories struck by its findings, which imply that the Conservatives could regain the lead in national opinion polls by choosing Michael Heseltine as leader of the party, will await anxiously corroboration from other surveys this weekend. Cabinet ministers seeking to rally support for Margaret Thatcher, however, dismissed the poll as unreliable in the fevered atmosphere of the leadership election.

The Mori poll, conducted on Thursday after nominations for the leadership battle closed, involved face-to-face interviews with 1,088 people, of whom 915 expressed a voting intention. The researchers found that 45 per cent of respondents would vote for Labour if Mrs Thatcher remained Tory leader, 41 per cent would vote for the Conservatives, 10 per cent for the Liberal Democrats, and 2 per cent for the Nationalists and for the Greens.

This was remarkable enough, showing a fall of 12 percentage points in the Labour lead since a previous Mori poll in the middle of last month. The finding that is

crucial to the leadership battle, however, was the polling intention of respondents if Mr Heseltine led the party.

Forty-nine per cent would vote for the Conservatives, 39 per cent for Labour, 7 per cent for the Liberal Democrats, 2 per cent for the Nationalists and 2 per cent for the Greens.

The poll found that voting intention with Mrs Thatcher as leader of the party was Labour 41 per cent, Conservatives 41%, Liberal Democrats 10%; Nationalists 2% and Greens 2%.

In other words, a 4 per cent Labour lead would be turned into a 10 per cent Conservative lead, the first for many months.

The findings put Conservative leaders in a quandary. Although they welcomed the idea that the Labour lead could have been slashed so dramatically, they could not afford to give credence to a survey that suggested Mr Heseltine was a far more potent vote-winner for the party than Mrs Thatcher.

While some Conservatives argued that the poll showed that the party had pulled round under Mrs Thatcher and was closing the gap on Labour thanks to her efforts, this was not borne out by the survey's other findings about the relative perceptions of her and Mr

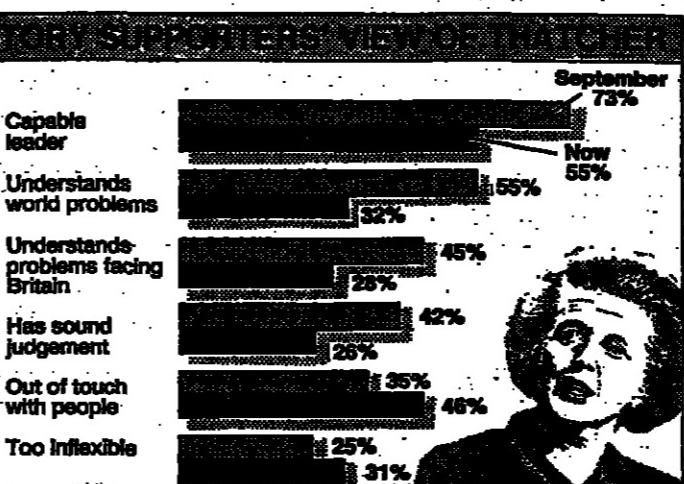
Heseltine. As the accompanying graphic shows, Mrs Thatcher is less well regarded, even among Conservative supporters, on six key questions than she was in September.

Privately, the prime minister's supporters confessed their shock at the findings. Publicly, they sought to diminish their impact. David Waddington, the home secretary, said he was not sure if the new poll was reliable and that it needed to be treated with caution.

"It would be very nice if we were in the lead, but it's a very small sample," he said on the BBC's *Breakfast News*. "It would be a turn-round from all the recent polls."

Mr Waddington said that the suggested popularity of Michael Heseltine ignored Mrs Thatcher's strong leadership qualities.

Kenneth Baker, the Conservative party chairman, said he was "a little suspicious" of the poll findings. After considering the



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